Towards a spatial response to government participation

NOORD’S PARTICIPATIESAMENLEVING

GRADUATION PRESENTATION

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Research Group - Complex Cities

Faculty of Architecture - TU Delft
Date - July 1, 2016
MSc Urbanism

Towards a spatial response to government participation
How can Amsterdam Noord put the participatiesamenleving concept into practice through action, and benefit from the spatial impact?
INTRODUCTION

GOAL
GROUP
INPUT
IMAGINE
ORGANIZE
MAKE

BUIKSLOTERDIJK
A green patch of land between the old village Buiksloot and the garden village expansion of Floradorp.

https://www.amsterdam.nl/buurten/noord/burgerinitiatieven

MAKE
ORGANIZE
IMAGINE
INPUT
GROUP
GOAL
Noord

Participatiesamenleving

Policy proposal

Illustration - Purmerplein
NOORD LOCATION
HISTORY ~1700

NOORD
NOW
NOORD

noord
Inhabitants of Noord (x 100.000)

Inhabitants of the city of Amsterdam (x 100.000)

Inhabitants of the Amsterdam urban area (x 100.000)

Inhabitants of the Amsterdam metropolis (x 100.000)
NOW - PROPERTY VALUE

NOORD

http://maps.amsterdam.nl/woningwaarde_wozm2/

WOZ BUILDINGS

AMSTERDAM NOORD

> € 5000 /m²
€ 4500 - € 5000
€ 4000 - € 4500
€ 3500 - € 4000
€ 3000 - € 3500
€ 2500 - € 3000
€ 2000 - € 2500
€ 1500 - € 2000
< €1500 /m²

http://maps.amsterdam.nl/woningwaarde_wozm2/?LANG=nl
NOW - RESIDENTS

NOORD
Wij behoren tot een generatie op wie het begrip ‘met pensioen gaan’ niet meer van toepassing is. Wij zijn maatschappelijk actief en willen dat ook blijven.

De leden van Noorderzon vinden het milieu- en duurzaamheid belangrijk. Dit moet ook tot uitdrukking komen in de bouw of verbouw van onze toekomstige huisvesting.

De leden van Noorderzon willen zo lang mogelijk zelfstandig blijven wonen en werken. We willen onze eigen zorg regelen en er deels ook zelf in voorzien, zodat we zo min mogelijk een beroep hoeven te doen op allerlei dure voorzieningen.

Noorderzon moet een uitgesproken buurtfunctie krijgen. We willen aandacht geven aan onze woningen en activiteiten om deel te worden van de buurstatus van het gehele gebied. Verder zullen we relaties aangaan en samenwerking zoeken met andere voorzieningen in de buurt.

Binnen het vrijwel uitsluitend op individuele personen/huishoudens gerichte Amsterdamse systeem van woningproductie en -verdeling lijken onze wensen en ideeën niet gemakkelijk realiserbaar.

TREND - DIY - CARING

NOORD

[Image of people holding a check and standing in front of a building]

[Image of silhouettes of people sitting on a couch with a camera person taking a photo]
Vrije School in oprichting Amsterdam-Noord
www.vrijeschoolamsterdamnoord.nl
TREND - DIY - FACILITATING

NOORD
TREND - DIY - PRODUCING/PUBLIC SPACE

NOORD
NOORD

TREND - DIY - PUBLIC SPACE
TREND - DIY - PUBLIC SPACE

NOORD
TREND - DIY - PUBLIC SPACE

NOORD
Anyone capable of doing so, is asked to take **responsibility** for their own life and **environment**

Formalisation of activities and informal relations between citizens (i.e. family care, neighbor activities)

Reduction of government tasks & welfare state

Decentralization
THE BIG SOCIETY

Participatiesamenleving

2008 CRISIS

inspiration

RIGHT OF SAY

incentive

trend

SHARING (ECONOMY)
PARTICIPATIESAMENLEVING
SPATIAL IMPACT

Make No Large Scale Blueprint Plans

Only Make Big Plans

Take Matters Into Own Hands
Opportunity for democracy

Scale of decision making power

Local | National

Democracy

Cost reduction

A world in which people can influence their own environment
PARTICIPATIESAMENLEVING

THREATS

Common good

Inequality

How-to
Letting go altogether
PARTICIPATIESAMENLEVING
PROBLEMATIC POLICIES IN NOORD

Too bureaucratic
Lacking communication
A green patch of land between the old village Buiksloot and the garden village expansion of Floradorp.
How (local) governments used to view urban initiatives...  

...What happened when the crisis hit...  

...And how it works now.
The participatory planning process involves a transition from a top-down to a bottom-up approach.
Framework website

Illustration
Creative ideas
Neighbourhood representatives
Active citizens
Go-getters
Self-builders
Citizen initiatives
Inspiration

WANTED
BUIKSLOTERDIJK
A green patch of land between the old village Buiksloot and the garden village expansion of Floradorp.
It is useful to agree on some goals for your initiative when you first start. These steps should help you get set up.

**WHAT?**
What do you want?
- Is there a specific problem you want to tackle?
- Do you have any shared goals?
- When do you want your goals to have come true?
- Is your initiative meant to last, or is it a one time thing?

**WHY?**
For whom are you doing this?
- Is your initiative beneficial for the entire street, for your block, for all of Noord, for the city, or...?
- Do all groups benefit from your initiative, or is the focus on the elderly, children, the poor, muslims, or...?

**WHERE?**
Which location can house your initiative?
- Is your initiative for a public, a shared or a private space?
- Do you have a specific location in mind?
- Why do you want this location?

Several locations have been pre-approved for citizen initiatives in the public space.
- Is your initiative in one of these spots?
- Is your initiative in a different public space?
[WEBSITE - GOAL - REQUIREMENTS]

COMMUNICATION

ENTHUSIASTIC,
NETWORKED
&
PROFESSIONAL
INITIATORS

SHORT TERM
STRATEGY

COMMON
INTERESTS
&
AMBITIONS

WILLING
ACTORS

Source: Kati Dijk, 2015, Ruimtevolk
Gather a diverse group of people to work on your initiative. Ask yourself the following questions about your group.

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**WHO?**
Which groups are involved in your project?
- Are all sexes, ages, races, religions and classes involved?
- If certain groups are underrepresented: is this a problem? Do the missing groups have interest in your initiative?
- Can you temporarily include the missing groups, through questionnaires, talks or work shops?

**SKILLS?**
Which skills do you need in your group?
- Do you need something to be built, designed, presented, organized, painted, or...?
- Do the people in your group have these skills?
- Can you get outsiders to help?

**BOSS?**
How do you want to organize your group?
- Do you appoint a leader?
- Is everyone equal, with certain spokespeople?
- How much time do participants have to spend?
- How will you communicate to the district council, other residents, businesses, media?
**CAPABILITIES**
- Work within existing framework
- Read & write the rules
- Close deals
- Arrange subsidies
- Negotiate

**CHARACTERISTICS**
- Inventive & creative
- Enthusiastic
- Extensive social network
- Know the ropes
- Highly educated
- Professional attitude
- Argumentative
- Prefer hipsteresque ideas

**ACTIVE RESIDENTS**

**POLICY**

[WEBSITE - GROUP - DESIRABLE QUALITIES]
**OFFICIALS & SPOKESPEOPLE**
- Link to (local) government
- Organize

**TRAILBLAZERS**
- Initiate
- Invest time & money
- Ambitious

**FOLLOWERS**
- Join
- Wellwilling
- Less committed
- Projectbased

**VOLUNTEERS**
Go around asking locals for their opinion and input for your initiative. These questions can start your conversation.

**MISSING?**
- Do you miss certain elements?
  - Are all facilities available to you?
  - Do you have any complaints about your neighbourhood?
  - Is the public space we want to develop important to you? Would you have any ideas?

**AGREE?**
- What do you think of our initiative?
  - Do you think our initiative is a good idea?
  - Would you change anything major about our initiative?
  - Do you have any details we should pay attention to?

**SUPPORT?**
- Would you like to support our initiative?
  - Would you be willing to come and help work on our initiative?
  - Would you like to support our initiative through the contribution money, materials and/or knowledge?
  - Do you know of any others who might be interested to support our initiative?
Imagine the possibilities! Be creative, dare to dream, and get inspired by some examples of existing initiatives.

### IDEAS?
Organize a brainstorm session!
- How could you solve the problem?
- What would you do if you had unlimited funding?
- What would you do if there were no rules?

### INSPIRE?
Have similar projects been realised or thought up in the past?
- Do you think our initiative is a good idea?
- Would you change anything major about our initiative?
- Do you have any details we should pay attention to?

### DESIGN?
Gather your ideas in a more realistic plan!
- How can you achieve great things through little effort?
- Which new things are needed?
- What would you do if there were no rules?

### VOTE?
Can your group agree on your design?
- Discuss the details until you agree on the major decisions.
- Vote on any remaining disagreements.
Imagine the possibilities! Be creative, dare to dream, and get inspired by some examples of existing initiatives.

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THE CEUVEL
TEMPORARY LAND DEVELOPMENT
Creative incubator meant to fill a space which is too polluted to use officially. This provides new functions for the area.

CONTACT:
Ceuvel Association
M: info@deceuvel.nl
P: (020) 229 62 10

Korte Papaverweg 2
1032 KB Amsterdam

IJPLEIN GARDEN
Allotment garden built to strengthen social cohesion & contact between various local groups.

Imagine the possibilities! Be creative, dare to dream, and get inspired by some examples of existing initiatives.
Compare your initiative to the local rules, get permissions and collect input from relevant professionals.

HERE?
Is this location available for your purpose?
• Is your location pre-approved for citizen initiatives?
• Are other citizen initiatives planned or discussed for this location?

LOCATION RULES

THIS?
Is your intended use allowed in this location?
• Is your intended use allowed in this neighbourhood?
• Does an existing use have to be cancelled for your initiative?
• Can public events still take place in your initiative?

USAGE RULES

SAFE?
Does your initiative present any hazards?
• Is fire safety accounted for?
• Playgrounds and sports facilities require fencing towards public streets.

SAFETY RULES
POLICY

Respect monuments & historical relevance

Ongoing routes need to remain accessible

No entrance blocking

Infrastructures are communicated & developed by authorities

No additions taller than the tallest surrounding

>25% open space

No digging below ground water level

10 o’clock curfew

Existing events need to have room to continue

Access for all

Respect visibility from routes and homes

No entry fees
Start building your initiative, and gather the resources you need.

**FUNDS?**

How can we get the funds to develop our initiative?
- Start a crowdfunding campaign.
- Specific subsidies are available for the development of your initiative.

**MATERIAL?**

Where do we get the materials required for our initiative?
- Do you have any spare materials?
- Do local entrepreneurs have any spare materials?
- Specific materials are available for the development of your initiative.

**PERMITS?**

Do we need to get any permits before we start?
- Do you have a development permit?
- Do you need any other permits?

**CONTACT THE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

REQUIRED PERMITS
ILLUSTRATION: PURMERPLEIN
An empty square in the Garden Village of Nieuwendam, surrounded by shops. PRE-APPROVED
ILLUSTRATION
PURMERPLEIN - CONTEXT
ILLUSTRATION
PURMERPLEIN - CONTEXT
ILLUSTRATION

PURMERPLEIN - IMPRESSION
It is useful to agree on some goals for your initiative when you first start. These steps should help you get set up.

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Developing the Purmerplein into a space which is usable and accessible for everyone.
Gather a diverse group of people to work on your initiative. Ask yourself the following questions about your group.

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**GROUP**

**INPUT**

**IMAGINE**

**ORGANIZE**

**MAKE**

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Citizen initiative for municipal problem.

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**IJPLEIN GARDEN**
Allotment garden built to strengthen social cohesion & contact between various local groups.

Locals started an initiative to place wind turbines in Noord, inspiring new policies.

Residents surrounding the Noorderpark initiated crowdfunding for a self-built pavilion/bar.
Compare your initiative to the local rules, get permissions and collect input from relevant professionals.

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**LOCATION RULES**

**USAGE RULES**

**SAFETY RULES**
Collective property:
Developments require owners & residents approval
- Collective gardens

Public infrastructure:
No blocking.
Developments need to be communicated and developed through authorities
- Public roads
- Public trottoirs

Preserve:
- Ongoing routes (>4m)
- Entrance roads
- Visual connections
- 50 parking spots (6x2.5m)
- Private entrances

Available for appropriation

Collective gardens
Public roads
Public trottoirs
Automatic permission
Collective property:
Developments require owners & residents approval
Public infrastructure:
No blocking.
Developments need to be communicated and developed through authorities
Public property
Start building your initiative, and gather the resources you need.

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CONTACT THE DISTRICT COUNCIL
REQUIRED PERMITS
ILLUSTRATION

PURMERPLEIN - MAKE - MUNICIPAL SUPPORT

-0.5 m asphalt
-0.38 m pavers in stretcher bond with white speed bump lines
0.5 m concrete pavement tiles

A A'

0 0.5m 1m 2m

N

asphalt
pavers in stretcher bond with white speed bump lines
concrete pavement tiles
ILLUSTRATION
PURMERPLEIN - MAKE - COMBINATIONS
ILLUSTRATION

PURMERPLEIN - MAKE - COMBINATIONS
How can Amsterdam Noord put the participatiesamenleving concept into practice through action, and benefit from the spatial impact?

By introducing a comprehensive and communicative framework to facilitate the transition to a citizen-driven structure, Amsterdam Noord could benefit from the spatial impact of the participatiesamenleving concept and its policies.

Citizens need to be guided at first, and convinced of the range of possibilities through (existing) examples. Urbanists can play a supporting role, helping to collect best practices, offering guidance in defining starting points, and providing technical solutions.
ANY QUESTIONS?
# Citizen Initiative Evaluation

**Purmerplein, Tuindorp Nieuwendam**

### Evaluation Criteria

**Before** 23-06-2016

**After** measured on ... - ... - ....

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighbourhood Monitor</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighbour nuisance rating (2016):</td>
<td>7,2 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbourhood rating (2016):</td>
<td>7,7 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House rating (2016):</td>
<td>7,6 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House maintenance rating (2016):</td>
<td>7,0 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of users per hour</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning 10:00 - 11:00:</td>
<td>4 users</td>
<td>..... users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon 13:00-14:00:</td>
<td>5 users</td>
<td>..... users</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening 19:00-20:00:</td>
<td>2 users</td>
<td>..... users</td>
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<tr>
<th>Safety</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective safety rating (2012):</td>
<td>50 / 100</td>
<td>..... / 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjective safety rating (2012):</td>
<td>69 / 100</td>
<td>..... / 100</td>
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<tr>
<th>Attractiveness Monitor</th>
<th>Before</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environment (2013):</td>
<td>7,2 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenery (2013):</td>
<td>7,4 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleanliness street (2013):</td>
<td>6,1 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleanliness greenery (2013):</td>
<td>6,6 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleanliness playgrounds (2013):</td>
<td>5,9 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Degradation (2013):</td>
<td>27 %</td>
<td>..... %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance street (2013):</td>
<td>5,7 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance greenery (2013):</td>
<td>6,7 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance playgrounds (2013):</td>
<td>5,9 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution nuisance (2013):</td>
<td>6,6 / 10</td>
<td>..... / 10</td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Governance</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content with district council (2013):</td>
<td>38 %</td>
<td>..... %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content with municipality (2013):</td>
<td>37 %</td>
<td>..... %</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equality</th>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have complaints been filed?</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>..... complaints</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which groups are involved?</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>..................................</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How many residents are involved?</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>..... %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Further comments:**

**Recommendation:** Best practice / Re-evaluate in .... / Redevelop

**Sign Here**
**Policy Time Frame**

- **2016**: Change the rules
- **2017**: Educate staff
- **2018**: Change the policy
- **2020**: Present your plans

**Internal**

- Build website
- Educate staff

**External**

- Present the changes
- Best practices

**Reflect**

- Document initiatives

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**Policy**

- Time frame

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