





BOLOGNA CENTRAL STATION - URBAN DESIGN CONCEPT PLANNING – Bologna, Italy

	PLACE	Bologna		CLIENT	RFI S.p.A. (Italian Railway Network)		PERIOD	June/ October 2022
	TITLE & SHORT DESCRIPTION	Bologna Central Station Urban Design Concept Planning "The Green Connection" - Pre-feasibility study						

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The concept planning includes urban design solutions to reconfigure the public spaces of the rail station as well as the adjacent areas to locate, within the station's complex area, the "Polo della Memoria Democratica", i.e., a documentation center to commemorate the victims of terror attacks and genocides. The planning includes a green connection between the station, the Shoah Victims Monument and the "Ustica" Hangar Museum (commemorating the attack the Itavia flight), also hosting an educational program and commemorative urban forest of trees planted by the Bolognese community to honour the victims.

This document constitutes the general framework of the interventions for the future Technical-Economic Feasibility Project for "Polo della Memoria Democratica", developing a tool to define the **guidelines of the Master Program** to be implemented for future decision-making processes, according to the following objectives:

- Connect the attractors of the Pole to each other through a protected urban route. The path of memory must be sustainable, accessible, and commemorative, but not rhetorical: it will be an urban microclimate, created by planting 101 trees, each one different, each one in memory of all the martyrs of democracy. The memory path must be quiet, fresh, active, and it must work both as an educational opportunity for the community and as a means of economic growth. The rest of urban design focuses on this general purpose and will have to find responses to this original plan.
- Allow the realization of the itinerary on an urban scale in phases, according to the community's times, opportunities and needs. In this sense, the processes for implementing the proposed initiatives must be identified, i.e. the necessary steps for the realization of the general idea.
- Identify the "anchor" polarity, which start the urban renewal process. In this sense the recovery plan for the buildings adjacent to the central station must be defined at a conceptual level, as regards the volumes and the distribution of the spaces and with regard to the external spaces to get free for public use and accessibility.



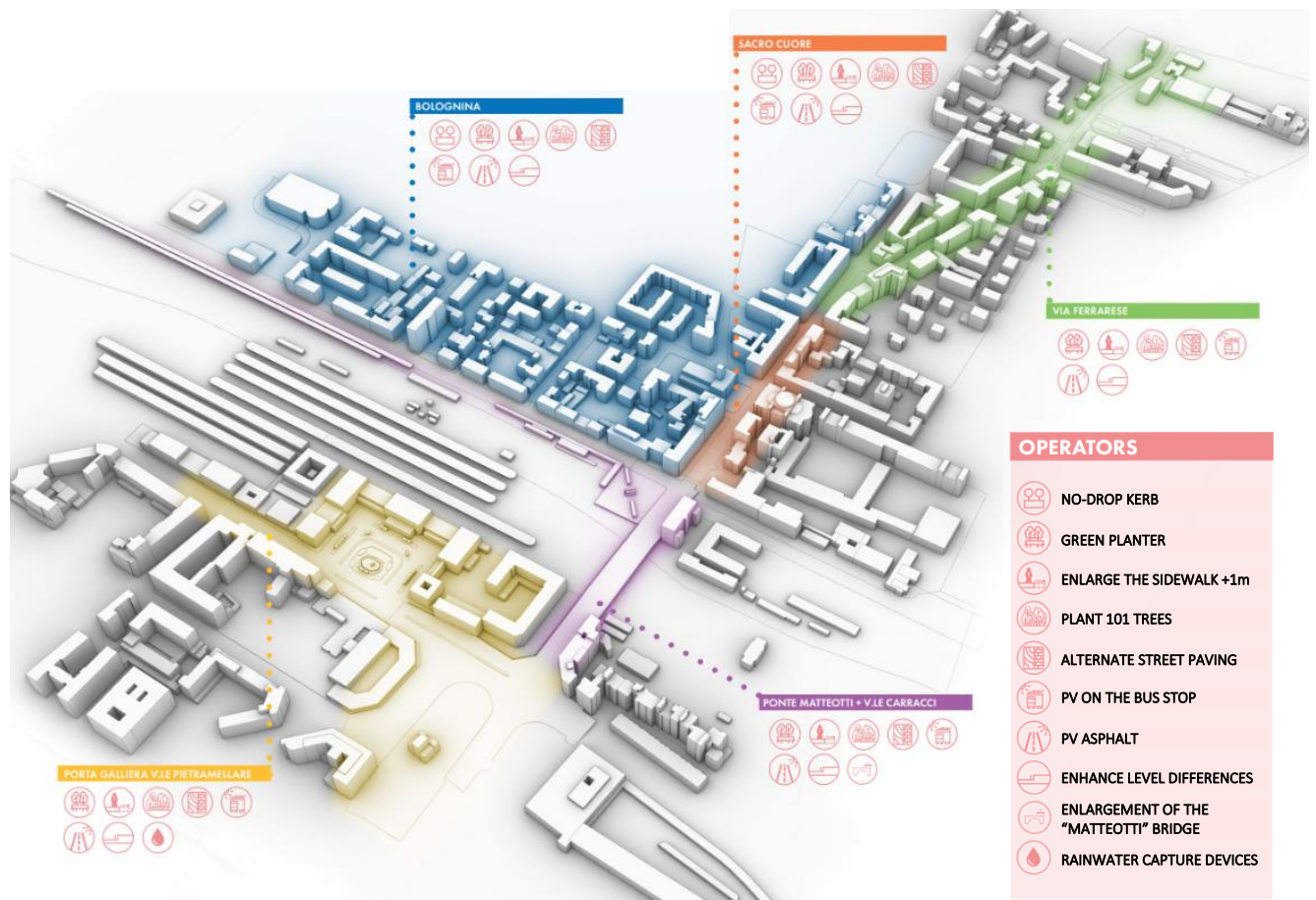
DESIGN ACTIONS

The specific actions refer to the methodological tools used in the definition of the Master Program, and are synthesized as follows:

- To integrate basis-of-design solution proposed by RFI (Client) at the architectural scale, taken as a starting point for designing the necessary urban design scenarios, as alternatives to choose the proposed option via multi-criteria analysis.
- To develop alternative reconfiguration scenarios for the public space surrounding the “Polo della Memoria”, also in relation to the proposals already expressed by RFI (Client) and Grandi Stazioni (Stakeholder) regarding the underground car park.
- To allocate effective spaces / areas for green mobility services, yet consistent with urban planning and architectural scenarios, i.e. analysis of the constraints and opportunities and assessment of the direct area of intervention.
- To evaluate the impacts on traffic on a local and metropolitan scale, and assessment of the effects of the individual intervention included in the Master Program at both local and urban scale.
- To define a general framework for architectural guidelines for the subsequent development of the Technical-Economic Feasibility Project of the Polo della Memoria Democratica, and in particular with reference to the spaces properly assigned in the RFI properties (Building 2 and Building 3).

DESIGN TOOLS

The concept planning, considered the randomness of the evolution of urban planning tools and the timing of the urban project, focuses on the proposal of minimal "operator" tools, i.e., devices that "do something for someone" and make it possible to interventions one independent of the other, each of them in reference to a specific agenda and contingent needs. In this sense, starting, e.g., from the detail of the widening of a sidewalk or the implementation of green planters and lines of trees, an attempt is made to give concrete and easily obtainable quality to urban spaces subject to future transformations, without necessarily resorting to the modification of urban planning instruments, consequently avoiding the risk of design failure.



Operators chart per street / urban area: implementing minimal devices the design is not subject to timing and process of large urban intervention and modification of the planning tools (Piano Urbanistico Generale – General Urban Planning).