

Call for papers EWT 20/2019

Urban Design for Railways Area

Opening call 3 October 2019 | **deadline for submission of abstracts 31 October 2019**

After having recounted the difficulties of recovering peripheral metropolitan areas implementing urban projects (Naples EWT17), of preserving and valorizing contexts full of history (Rome, EWT18), and after having searched out innovative models above all in the experiences in a number of minor towns (EWT19), in the new number EWT20, we seek to better illustrate projects which are currently being elaborated for railway areas. Authors are requested to send essays or contributions concerning research into or the outcome of experiences regarding the requalification of brownfield railyards or rail tracks and/or of the modernization of stations used as activators in urban projects to develop surrounding areas. The proposed papers will be evaluated as regards their ability to identify the theoretic reflections and construction processes of projects that could be usefully extended to other urban realities.

The theme will be investigated mainly in reference to three questions:

Regarding the difficulties of carrying out an urban project

For many years now in Italy there have been efforts to promote projects to reuse abandoned brownfield railyards and others to modernize stations as urban projects to activate and serve as catalysts for their surrounding contexts.

However successful outcomes have been rather scarce and, very often, it was not possible to develop the link between the station and the city, notwithstanding the best intentions of all involved parties.

What are in your opinion the main reasons for this problem? Are they insurmountable issues? In what conditions does it become possible to promote and carry out projects for stations which will activate urban development?

Hypotheses for the future

In general, a large part of the difficulties in doing such urban projects depend on quality requirements placed on the context by local administrations and the necessary logics that are placed on the intervention by the rail service operator.

Whatever the reciprocal results and conveniences are, are there some clues which it is possible to use in setting up future projects for brownfield railyards and the using of stations as activators for urban development?

The replicability of models

In recent years interventions in abandoned rail areas have become extremely interesting laboratories for a new generation of projects of urban requalification that extend beyond the limits of the area of the intervention and are innovative in their use of methodological processes.

In particular in this context is the sharing of important innovations and processes regarding the relationship set up between public administrations and research entities to identify the social needs for intervention and predispose a strategic vision for the future of the areas involved in the transformation.

In these terms, can the proposed experience become a model for other cities?

Under what conditions can the proposed model be replicated in other contexts?

The proposals for articles in EWT 20, which look at the subject of Urban Design for Railways Area, may contain theoretic or methodological reflections, concerning analyses of case studies or results reached in research activities or project experimentation, keeping in mind the following subjects:

1. The actuality of urban design in small towns
2. Reasons for and the utility of urban design in small towns
3. Obstacles that today impede the success of urban design in small towns
4. Innovations to be introduced to urban design in Italy to improve the effectiveness, feasibility and quality of results.

The authors are invited to send an **abstract of 3,000 keystrokes, including spaces**, in Italian or in English if the author/s is/are foreigners by midnight CET **31 October 2019**.

The abstract must contain a synthesis of the main content of the article that is being proposed, and it must be written clearly and responding to the themes indicated by EWT.

The abstracts must also explain effectively the goals of the proposal, the possible originality of the article and the methodologies used, specifying:

- The title of the article
- The name and surname of the author/s who are proposing it
- Five keywords coherent with the theme and sub-theme
- The goal of the proposal of the article and the characteristics of its originality
- The approach and the methodology used in developing the article
- The expected results or the results achieved that will be presented in the article

Not respecting the above conditions will be a motive for exclusion.

The abstract is to be sent using the form annexed to this call and must be sent to the Editorial Board of EWT at the address info.ecowebtown@gmail.com by midnight CET **31 October 2019**.

All the abstracts which are received and correspond to the requirements indicated by the call will be submitted, anonymously to a selection operated collegially by the Scientific and Editorial Committees of EcoWebTown. The Editorial Secretary will notify to the authors the acceptance of the abstracts by **10 November 2019**.

Silence denial will be the rule for the abstracts that are not accepted.

The authors of the abstracts accepted will be requested to send final versions of their articles by **10 December 2019**. The final article must respect the following requirements:

- Text length: a maximum length of 25,000 keystrokes, including spaces, comprehensive of any non-bibliographic notes, text to any images or tables and bibliographic references included, all according to the Harvard notation style.
- Two final abstracts one in Italian and one in English that do not exceed a maximum of 800 keystrokes, including spaces.
- Five keywords in Italian and English.
- Any images or tables must be in a jpeg or tiff format with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi (RGB or CMYK) and relative permission to use the images where these images are not the property of the author/s or subjected to copyright.
- The (IT/ENG) abstracts and keywords, the text, images, tables, notes, captions and bibliographic references will respect the rules of the templates which will be provided. Not respecting these rules will be a motive for the non-publication of the article.

The articles will be submitted to a procedure of single blind peer review, according to the indications found in the ANVUR regulations for the classification of scientific reviews in non-bibliometric areas.

The anonymous reviewers will be asked to evaluate the articles as regards the following aspects:

- The article's pertinence to the general theme and sub-themes of the call
- The clarity of the text and appropriateness of the notes and images where present
- The accuracy of bibliographic references
- The quality of the methodological approaches proposed
- The quality of the analyses and the pertinence of case studies mentioned
- The quality and innovation of the results
- The transferability and replicability of the results.

The articles submitted for review may be accepted, accepted with a request for a minor revision, accepted with a request for a significant revision or refused (not suitable for publication).

The outcomes of the reviews will be communicated to the authors by **20 December 2019**.

Based on the evaluations of the anonymous reviewers, the authors will be requested to complete any recommended revisions and to resubmit the article in its final camera-ready version by **24 December 2019**.

EWT is an ANVUR accredited *full open access* on-line scientific journal that guarantees free public access to all scholars, libraries and readers while requiring no subscription, payment or pay per view contribution.

To support its editorial services EWT has chosen to make use of a contribution from the authors when their article is accepted for publication. EWT does not receive any income from the sale of subscriptions or the review's on-line publication.

The authors will thus be requested to make a free VAT excluded donation (as per art. 4 del DPR No. 633/1972) of **€ 80,00** before the article is published.

Deadlines of call for EWT 19/2019

- Opening call **3 October 2019**
- Deadline for sending the abstract by **31 October 2019**
- Abstract evaluation and acceptance communicated to the authors by **10 November 2019**
- Submission of accepted articles by **10 December 2019**
- Communication of the results of the single blind peer review by **20 December 2019**
- Submission of the final camera-ready article by **24 December 2019**
- Publication of the article in EWT 19/2019 following the payment of the contribution of € 80,00.

EWT/EcoWebTown

Online Six-monthly Journal

Rivista semestrale on line

Spin Off SUT Publishing, Sustainable Urban Transformation,
ISSN2039-2656

Publisher: SUT

EcoWebTown, *Journal of Sustainable Design* is a full open access on-line journal (<http://www.ecowebtown.it>). It is edited by the editorial center of the academic spinoff SUT *Sustainable Urban Transformation* of the “G. d’Annunzio” University of Chieti-Pescara and is inserted in the ANVUR official list of the scientific journals (**ISSN 2039-2656**) Reg. Tribunale di Pescara No. 9/2011 of 07/04/2011.

EWT review was founded with the conviction that there was a need for a culture of the digitally infrastructured and sustainable urban project, to better understand some of the big issues facing our times including: the exhaustion of non-renewable resources and climate change; the coexistence among value systems and increasingly irreducible social objectives; the need for an ‘informed’ and shared consensus as regards choices made by those who depend on the quality of life in cities and the countryside.

Following a first cycle under the brand of Sustainability Sensitive Urban Design, we have now turned our focus to the question of Urban Design in their architectonic, urban, technologic, environmental and social articulations. In particular, the new focus theme of EWT regards the real practicability on Urban Design in the current contexts of Italian and European cities in which encounters growing difficulties in managing transformations through projects with a strategic valence and inspired by the new values of contemporary times.

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