

Self-organized urban development and urban activism

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Content of the lecture

- What is self-organization?
- What is the role of self-organization in urban development?
- How to deal with urban activism as a planner?

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Self-organization in planning theories

- System theory in planning
(Michael Batty, Juval Portugali)
= Mechanism → Dynamics of urban processes and morphology
- Post-structural planning theory
(Beitske Boostra, Gert de Roo, Jean Hillier, Judith Innes)
= Actors → Interaction, different rationales

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Self-organized urban development

- **Everyday life practices** which make changes in the physical and social construction of urban space (de Certeau, 1984; Kuoppa, 2016)
- Self-organization in which people take **action outside formal organizations** (also NGOs), for example tactical urbanism and urban activism (Faehnle & al., 2017; Hamdi 2015;)
- **Public participation** (Innes & Booher, 2009; Healey, 1995) that takes place in formal urban planning and decision-making processes.

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Typology of self-organized urban actions (Wallin 2019)

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Something new, something old, something borrowed...

The collage features several elements: a Facebook page for 'ALLIO-LIIKKE' (Allium Movement) with 8,804 members and a post about a 'Kallio-liikkeen' (Allium Movement) event; a poster for 'POP UP Toripäivä' (Pop Up Market Day) on October 27, 2012, in Hertstoniemi; a person holding a sign; a person with a red bandana; and a person holding a smartphone displaying a social media post.

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→ Local identity and place-making



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→ Co-production of urban space and real-estate development (also co-housing)



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→ Urban management and maintenance

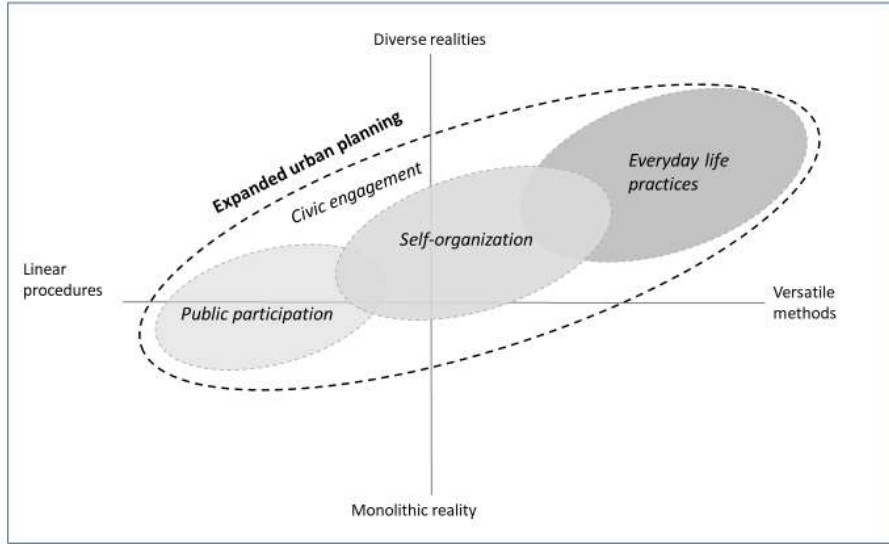


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How to deal with self-organization
in urban planning and
development?

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Relationship between planning and self-organized urban development?



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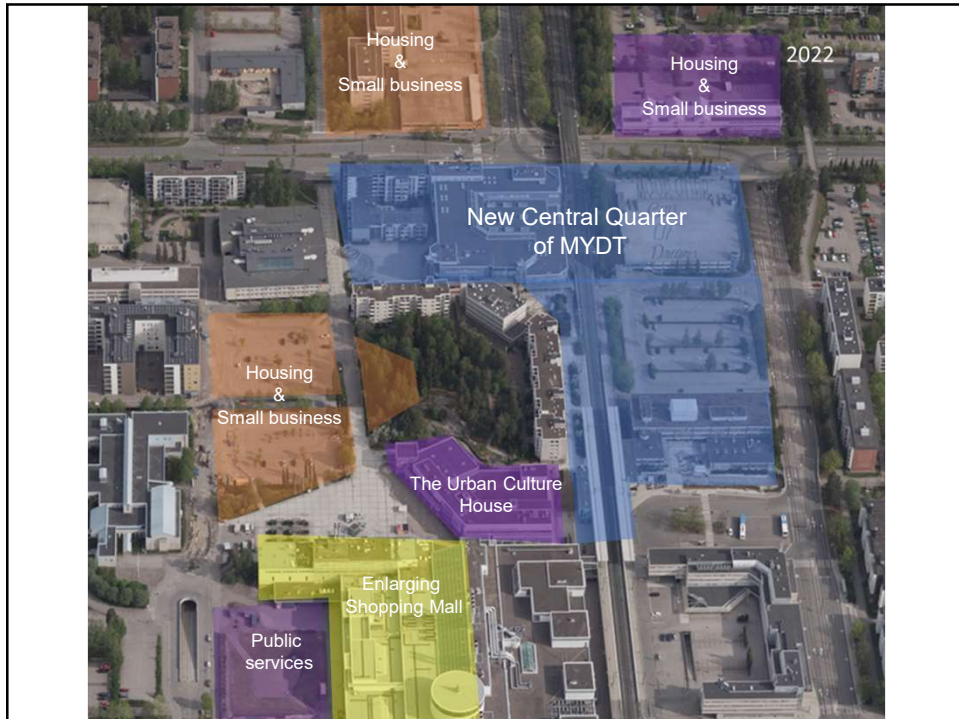
City of Vantaa/ Case Myyrmäki – Urban regeneration and self-organization



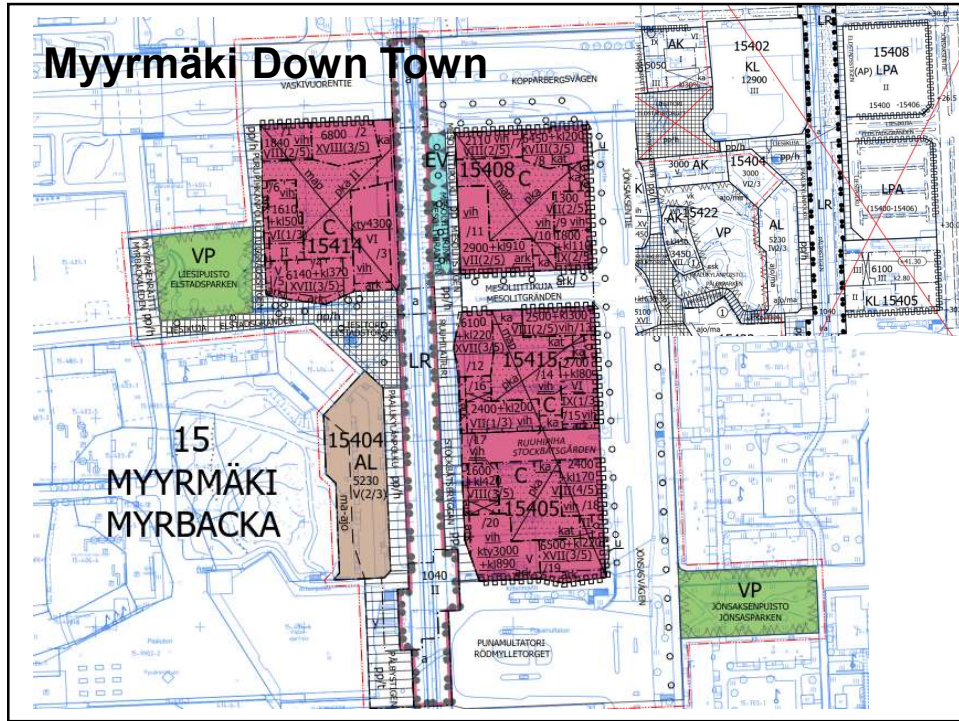
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Public space & urban development



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While waiting the statutory urban planning ...Self-organized MYDT

 A collage of images related to community gardening and urban development. It includes a photograph of a market stall with plants, a photograph of a garden with various plants in pots, and a photograph of three people sitting on a wooden bench outdoors. The text is overlaid on a purple background.

**KASVIT KESKIÖSSÄ:
YHTEISÖPUUTARHURIN UNELMA-
KESÄDUUNI & URBAANI VILJELY**

**PUISTO KUKOISTAA - KOKO KESÄ
VEHREÄÄ JUHANNUS-JUHLAA**
Myyri York Park suunnitellaan ja toteutetaan niin, että kasvillisuus ei ole vain somiste vaan konseptin keskiössä. Yhteistyöneuvottelut mm. Myyriä Metropolan Urban Farm Labin ja heidän hankkeidensa kanssa ovat menneillä!

**"HIENO, ETTÄ LÄNSI-VANTAAN
KESÄ SAATIIN NÄIN ELÄVÄKSI."**
-KÄVIJÄPALAUTE 2022

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Self-organised urban actions in public space

PARK AVENUE JA MYYRMÄEN KESKUSTAN VIIHTYISYYDEN PARANTAMINEN

Kolme taideinstallaatiota toteutetaan kolmeen eri kohtaan ja ripustetaan turvallisesti ja kestävästi ylös.

Kestävät taideinstallaukset näytetään Myrskylän ydinkeskustassa

Käsiteltävää aluetta

Hotspot-esiintymispaikat

Tilapäisiä myyntipisteitä Business Avenuen hengessä: parturi-kampaaja, suutari, kahvila, jäätelölaipa, käsityöläispuutikki, levykirppari, pieni kirjakauppa yms.

Ehostetaan Myyri Parkin eteläpuolen sisäänkäynti taide-teoksilla.

Ruukkukujan parkkihalli (2020)

Myyrinkorpi (2022)

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Dealing with self-organization as a planner

- Acknowledging diverse realities and urban complexity

Planning procedure is not a procedure.

It is an illusion of control in a non-linear urban development.

In a world of dispersed realities, the planners realm is merely one of the realms
 - often detached from local ones.

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Lesson I – Locality first

The comprehension of complexity in urban planning.

Interest in planning should be turned to the ways people live (e.g. consumption and mobility), **the existing urban structure and its functions in local scale.**

Metropolitan spatial planning is important, but if it does not function locally, it cannot benefit the region.

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Lesson II - Triangulation

Urban planning solves best simple problems.

Versatile methodological competence is part of a larger capacity to understand urban complexity and distinguish simple complexities from the group of situations and systems that represent disorganised and organised complexity.

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Lesson III - Empowerment

Urban planning can distinguish the different types of complexity-related problems, but **not resolve all of them**.

Self-organizing urban development can develop new and also provide stability that steers the regional and city-level initiatives more efficiently than urban planning.

Therefore, **urban planning should enable people** to take actions in their own neighbourhood by creating meeting places, providing space for gatherings and new forms of using public space

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Thank you!

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