



Raising awareness of fundamental rights and EU values through sustainable transportation infrastructure



Municipality of Valongo:

- North of Portugal, District of Porto,
- belonging to the Metropolitan Area of Porto (AMP);
- Area= 75.7 km²;
- 93.858 inhabitants;
- 4 parishes: Alfena, Ermesinde, Campo and Sobrado Parish Union and Valongo.



Valongo has a vast history and several landmarks in the landscape, which characterize it and define it as a unique territory.

The municipality of Valongo, aims to invigorate, revitalize, attract, and “conquer” everyone to discover the “hidden” wonders in our mountains, such as environmental, heritage and cultural resources. It’s a key territory as an incubator for new business opportunities such as environmental entrepreneurship. The proximity to the municipality of Porto, a polarizing center of different dynamics of the entire metropolitan area helps establish this municipality in a pivotal position

The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (CFR) defines the essential rights and values of the EU:

- Dignity
- Freedoms
- Equality
- Solidarity
- Citizenship
- Justice





Valongo is investing in the redevelopment of sidewalks and crosswalks, creating cycle paths connected to public transport.

The redevelopment of public spaces and car traffic to increase safety is one of the top priorities.

These infrastructures promote sustainable travel, reduce car dependency, and contribute to more inclusive, accessible, and pleasant urban environments for residents and visitors.



EUROPEAN
MOBILITY
WEEK
SEPTEMBER



Public Spaces Requalification







In 2021, Valongo won the EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK Award for smaller municipalities

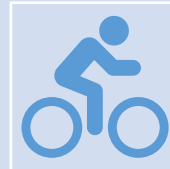


“During EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK 2021, Valongo prepared numerous innovative sustainable mobility actions and activities that focused on involving local people and organisations, especially schools. Their outstanding participation rate reflected the success of their plans, with people taking part in surveys, fitness classes, as well as a comic mobile theatrical performance of ‘Eco Cops’ performed from a pedal-powered eco-car in the city centre.”



Jury appreciations :

Valongo also captured the jury’s attention with its permanent infrastructure for an extensive variety of transport modes - including initiatives centred on walking, cycling, public transport, road safety, accessibility and cleaner vehicles - that were designed using a holistic, long-term approach.”



In the Municipality of Valongo, encouraging citizen participation and the involvement of residents in projects has been a bet, with the intention that the alternatives are widely discussed and, whenever possible, consensual.

In the context of urban planning and mobility, we highlight the participatory process of the Municipal MasterPlan, the Tactical Urbanism projects and the Public Spaces Requalifications

Also noteworthy are the initiatives carried out within the scope of the European Mobility Week, with a more ludic nature, which invite the population to participate in activities to raise awareness of sustainable mobility, namely for the use of public transport and gentle modes - pedestrian and cycling and also, to enjoy cities and reclassified public spaces.



Valongo Municipal MasterPlan (PDM Valongo) - Participatory Process

The participatory process of the PDM is structured in 5 stages



- 1: Expectations
- 2: Diagnosis
- 3: Proposals
- 4: Experimental Actions
5. PDM Public Presentation



Mapa dos atores de Valongo e exemplo de sessão de propostas temáticas.

Experimental actions were carried out.

The Municipality of Valongo has the collaboration of the Planning and Public Policy Laboratory of the University of Aveiro to promote this initiative.

Valongo Municipal Master Plan (PDM Valongo) - Participatory Process

Stage 5 - Public Space and Mobility: The citizens selected 4 actions for experimentation *"in situ"*

Alfena - Promote and encourage active mobility (pedestrian and cycling)

Campo e Sobrado - Promote active mobility to the school

Ermesinde - Organize a "Car Free Day"

Valongo - New uses of public space (Rua de São Mamede)



Valongo Municipal Master Plan (PDM Valongo) - Participatory Process

Recognizing the decisive importance of involving children and young people in civic participation, this Participatory Process will have a specific aspect aimed at our dear fellow citizens and main stakeholders in improving their territory: “VALONGO 4.0 – THE FUTURE BUILT BY THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OF VALONGO” (V4.0).



Tactical Urbanism

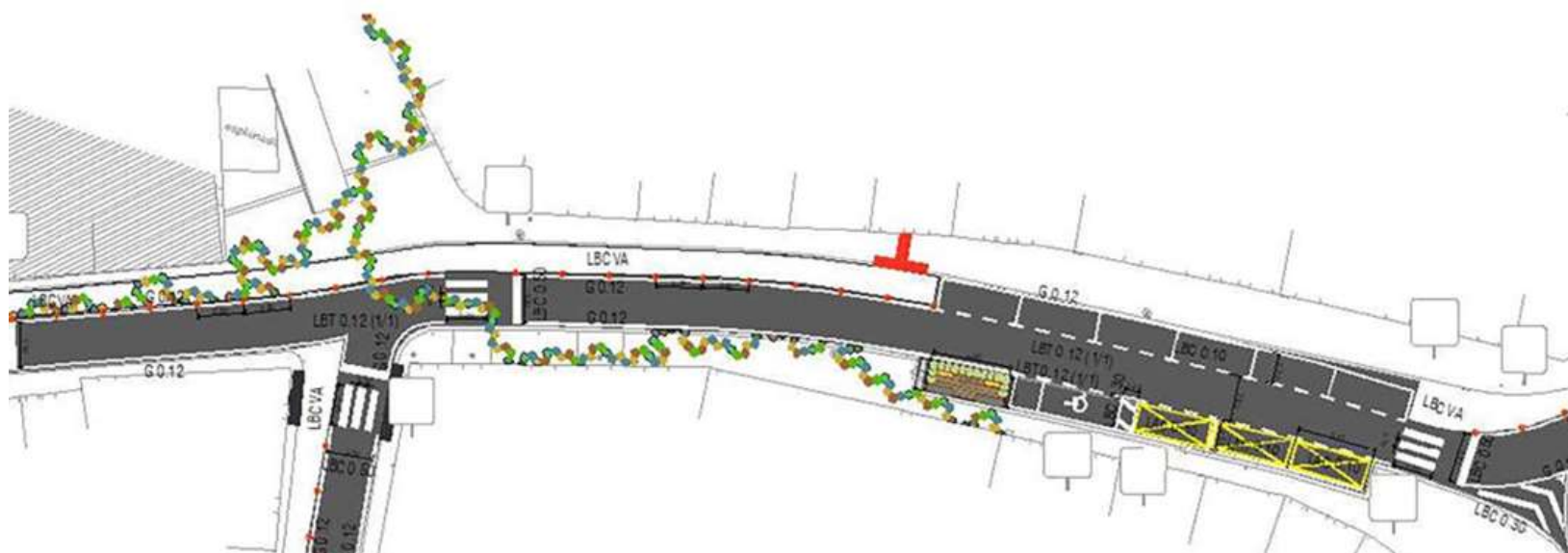
In Valongo, one of the main objectives is the creation of sidewalks that make the city center accessible and safe for pedestrians, as well as improving circulation conditions for other gentle modes, such as cycling.

This change resulted in the release of space previously occupied by the car for other purposes, such as garden areas, living, leisure and social areas for residents, as well as small esplanades for local commerce, using Tactical Urbanism, which is characterized by low-cost, quick-to-implement and eventually temporary urban interventions, serving as a test for their final concretization or can be reversed, if not the appropriate solution to the objectives.

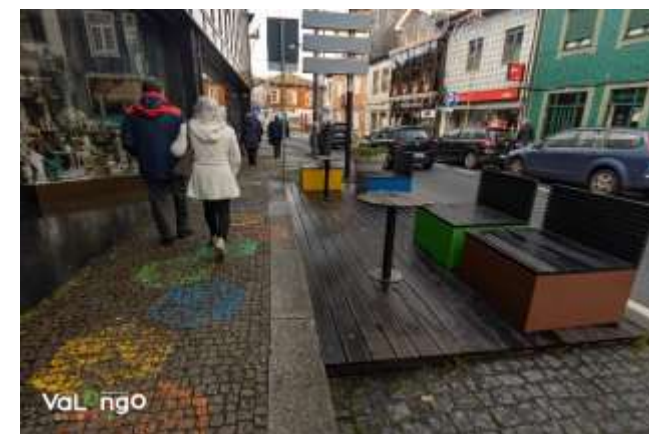
In the Public Participation sessions, representatives of various public and private institutions were involved, such as schools, firefighters, police forces, merchants, residents, associations, experts and others.



With these changes, it is expected that the city of Valongo will become a more inviting place. May it be an increasingly popular choice for citizens to walk in public spaces, exercise, support local commerce and, in a way, to enjoy their city.



<https://www.facebook.com/municipiodevalongo/videos/4960327444069540>





The Municipality of Valongo motivate and capture the interest and participation of the population in decision-making processes, especially in those that have direct interference with the well-being and population's quality with the daily life of the City, of life, namely in terms of Urban Mobility.





The mobility policies of the municipality of Valongo promote environmental sustainability, equal access to services, transparency, active participation of the population, and quality of life.

These principles reflect the fundamental values of the European Union.



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Câmara Municipal de
Valongo**

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