

01 Time Based Planning

Time-based planning is a framework that treats time as a central element of spatial design. Rather than planning a single static state, this approach treats urban spaces as a dynamic system that functions differently throughout the day, the week, and the seasons.

The goal is to maximize the use of built and open spaces through the temporal combination of complementary uses. It does so through flexible, modular design and multifunctional spaces that can adapt to changing user needs over time.

The planning is based on interdisciplinary teamwork and the integration of management and operational factors from the initial phases of program development, with the goal of creating alignment between physical planning and actual use.

In addition, information systems and digital tools enable the mapping of buildings and spaces, the analysis of operating hours and occupancy rates, as well as the identification of gaps between current use and long-term usage potential. This analysis makes it possible to incorporate complementary uses into the planning process and create a flexible urban system that responds to changing needs.

02 Use Catalog

The Use Catalog maps a wide range of public uses across the hours of the day, identifying when each activity takes place over a 24 hour cycle. Beyond temporal mapping, it analyzes each use according to a range of key criteria, including noise, infrastructure requirements, safety, age groups, operational patterns, and the level of exposure or privacy required.

This analysis creates a structured knowledge base that makes it possible to understand not only when each use operates, but also under what conditions it can be combined with other uses within the same space.

03 Compatibility Matrix

The Compatibility Matrix is a table that examines the relationships between different uses and presents their potential combinations. Each pair of uses is assigned a score based on the analysis developed in the Use Catalog, making it possible to identify where compatibility is high- meaning uses that can operate together within the same space over the course of the day, and where gaps, constraints, or friction may occur.

The matrix compares use against use and provides a clear planning tool for decision making based on the operational, spatial, and temporal compatibility between different activities.

04 Implementation Engine

A CHRONOS is the engine that operationalizes this framework. Designed for municipalities and planners, it analyzes how spaces perform across hours, days, and seasons, identifying dead time and compatible uses.

Using information systems and digital tools, CHRONOS maps spaces and analyzes operating hours and occupancy rates in order to identify gaps between current use and long term potential.

Given a set of proposed uses, CHRONOS produces a clear decision report that includes:

- The optimal mix of uses and spatial configuration
- A friction analysis of conflicting use pairs
- Key performance indicators, including active hours, space utilization, and cost per hour
- Concrete conditions for operational success

05 Kfar Yona Young Adult Center

The young adult center in Kfar Yona was designed with the time-based approach to operate under changing scenarios throughout the day. A single structure allows various configurations. Workplaces can become spaces for community activities in the afternoon, and cultural events in the evening.

The principle of multifunctionality extends beyond the interior. The timber terrace is designed to accommodate informal sports and movement activities, while the exterior staircase doubles as tiered seating facing a white wall suited for projection enabling outdoor screenings and performances. The building is designed to be in use from morning to night, inside and out.

06 Tabenkin Complex Bat Yam

The Taborkin Complex in Bat Yam is a time-based, mixed-use urban development that integrates civic, educational, and recreational programs within a single neighborhood campus. The project demonstrates how flexible architecture can transform underutilized urban land into a continuously active public space.

The spatial layout follows a gradient from public to private. Rather than assigning fixed functions to spaces, each zone is defined by a set of spatial qualities. Highly exposed zones with strong street presence naturally attract civic and recreational uses, while more protected areas with controlled access provide the conditions suited to education and childcare. Use emerges from spatial quality, not the other way around.

Four time-based scenarios – weekday morning, afternoon, evening, and Shabbat – map how different user groups, from young children and students to parents, adults, and seniors, occupy the complex at different times. This temporal programming aligns the built environment directly with the daily and weekly rhythms of neighborhood life.

07 The Mazkeret Batya Railway District

The Mazkeret Batya Railway District is a planned mixed-use urban development around an existing high-voltage electricity line that runs through the site. Due to safety regulations, the area directly beneath the line is restricted to short-stay uses of no more than four hours. This constraint serves as great opportunity for time-based planning.

The underused lanes and parking lot can be replaced by a series of temporary uses like food trucks, markets, informal gathering spaces, and other short-duration activities. This way the four-hour limit becomes the generator of a lively urban character.

At the broader scale, what was previously a dividing line between two separate neighborhoods is reframed as a shared public spine.

08 Urban Analysis of Districts 5+6 Tel Aviv

AL/Arc explored the potential for time-based planning on the scale of an entire urban district. The public infrastructure of Tel Aviv's Districts 5 and 6 was mapped using a GIS-based system that visualizes public buildings across the area, classified by use and activity hours throughout the day and week. The circular diagrams make visible not just what exists, but when it exists.

The analysis identifies time slots where public buildings are underutilized and locates potential for complementary uses. Rather than building a new structure for every purpose, the data available encourages authorities to make better use of existing public assets

The result is a tool that enables planners and institutions to understand how the existing public infrastructure can be activated more fully across all hours of the day.