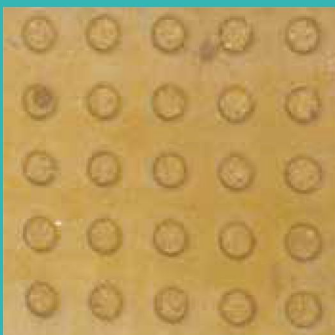
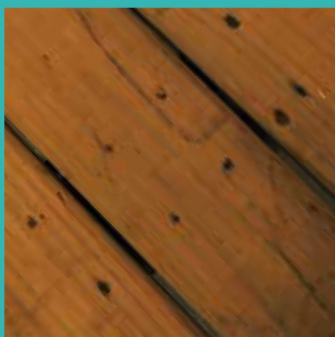


NEW EXPERIENCES IN THE GENERATION OF PUBLIC SPACES

Pocket Plazas

Santiago de Chile, Metropolitan Region



INTRODUCTION



What is a Pocket Plaza?

It is a project that, in a short amount of time and with a low investment, allows the temporary recovery of abandoned land while waiting for a permanent project that reintroduces the space back into the city.

The three main elements to implement a Pocket Plaza are:

1. Abandoned land
2. Equipment
3. Activating partner

One of the keys to the success of the Pocket Plazas is that they respond to a problem that many cities face: the presence of abandoned land, which for some limit, be it legal, technical or financial, prevents the land from being used. This creates a public safety problem and damages communities.

For this reason it is a transitory solution that, once the problem has been resolved, allows the land to be restored to its original use.

The investment is mainly designated towards urban equipment and minor works. This allows the recovery of public space to be faster than a conventional infrastructure project, which requires more development time. The cost of investment per square meter fluctuates between \$25,000 and \$100,000 (US \$ 38 and US \$ 154).

The current activating partners are the municipalities and food truck associations. They have been responsible for assuming the administration of space as well as the associated costs of maintenance and security. Additionally, the activating partners organize activities to integrate the plazas into the community.





Main attributes of a Pocket Plaza

- Allows for the **recovery** of a physical space in a short amount of time.
- Promotes **social coexistence** between different social groups.
- It is a space for the promotion of **art and culture**.
- Improves the quality of life** of people that habitually inhabit or pass through the space.
- It is **transitory**. Whenever it is necessary to implement another use for the space, the equipment can be removed and relocated elsewhere.
- It is a space for activities that promote the **occupation of public space**, favoring the social control of abandoned spaces.

