



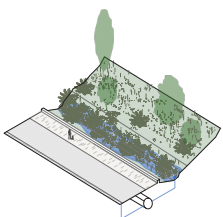
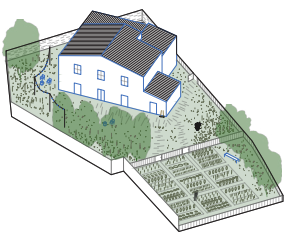
Font del Gos and Cal Notari fully express the challenges and complexities of a natural site, yet this abundance fosters a unique and meaningful connection with the surrounding landscape. It provides open spaces and scenic views that are rare in urban environments, helping to shape a strong identity for the place, which in turn strengthens the identity of the community that lives there. This community's past has been marked by both light and shadow: the marginal nature of the urban periphery also implies social and economic marginality. Therefore, the project aims to reverse the current *"dis-tony with the world"* (E. Montale) and instead propose a new *"syn-tony with the world"*, by restoring balance to a territory that has lost its rhythm, enabling it to function in tune with its surroundings. The land can respond positively, offering value and vitality, when it is nurtured and protected by a dedicated and caring community. In our vision of Font del Gos, living here means also engaging in actions such as: cultivating and sharing, dividing and uniting, protecting and waiting. We have developed a strategy that combines the fight against climate change in a new vision of living, from the broad landscape scale down to the neighborhood level, including intermediate urban interventions. A project that aims to regenerate the landscape and its urban context, reinforcing the ecological richness already present and establishing new relationships between man and nature.

TERRITORIAL STRATEGY

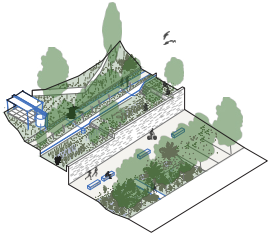
Compensation and Ecological Services

The creation of this place emerged out of necessity rather than planning. The numerous degraded buildings mortify this place of high natural beauty. Our project seeks to reconcile this conflict between the authorities and local residents by bringing this neighborhood into legality, not through neglect, but by allowing regularization of building violations while ensuring decent living conditions for today's standards. The proposal is to reclaim human presence within park boundaries using the principle of **compensation**: offsetting the impact of previous constructions with regeneration efforts like reforestation or agroforestry in impermeable asphalted, built-up or poor quality greenery. These new quality green areas serve to balance the same square metres of built-up area within the boundaries of the park in the Cal Notari area. Therefore, an urban park that includes human presence as a safeguarding presence. The neighbourhood can become a concrete **ecological bridge**, a node where nature penetrates and integrates into the existing urban fabric. To realise this we plan to work through the following actions:

- strengthening biodiversity and expanding the ecological network in continuity from the mountains to the coast;
- mapping and upgrading of existing and planned hiking trails between the city and the park;
- removing asphalt to recover permeable soil, especially where the **Font del Gos stream can be revealed** and integrated with nearby public spaces;
- creating green buffer-zone with tall trees to serve as noise barriers against the nearby highway;
- redevelopment of farmhouses, rural houses and other buildings as an active custodial



presence and historical document of identity of the local agro-pastoral territory, in particular the masia Can Papanats, now deteriorated.



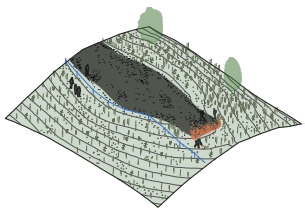
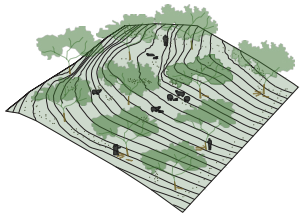
The territory's natural and cultural heritage can become an economic driver. It can enhance local resources and encourage short supply chains, fostering a circular economy that minimizes waste, encourages reuse, and makes the most of available resources. A genuine source of income alongside agritourism, nature trails and educational activities in nature. The aim is to reach an active and direct management regime based on public-private partnership models that enhance natural and cultural resources, respecting ecosystem services in line with both environmental and social values. The project therefore proposes a rural cooperative created by local operators that can produce, sell and promote "Km0" food products. Even today, several homes in the neighbourhood cultivate gardens within their walls. The project should encourage this practice by distributing new areas, proposing the agroforestry method that increases biodiversity and combats climate change.

- **private gardens** for self-production and consumption — also included in the new housing developments at Font del Gos and the southern area, to integrate the new inhabitants into the local lifestyle;
- **public community gardens**, managed by the cooperative, for sales or internal use, located on terraces with tool sheds and rainwater collection tanks — near the community center or between the new housing development and the new market (a symbol of local production and consumption).

The cooperative will manage livestock farming in a way that is compatible with the Park, meaning only ecological, extensive farming, based at the new agritourism facility located among the ruins on the Cal Notari ridge.

It will be an accommodation and dining business that offers a form of sustainable and authentic tourism. The rural cooperative will also focus on recovering resources from the existing wooded areas, which will be expanded by introducing cork oak—a tree that is heat-resistant and regenerates after fires. Its growth is very slow, but over time it creates economic benefits through the production of raw materials, while also preserving biodiversity by allowing livestock to graze in its shade. The cooperative will also have the role of monitoring and managing the forest mass to reduce vulnerability to wildfires through several actions:

- extensive silvopastoral techniques, where grazing animals help keep the undergrowth clean;
- the creation of firebreaks to stop or slow down the spread of fires;
- controlled burns, which remove dry, dangerous grass in summer; afterward, the soil becomes much more fertile, demonstrating that paradoxically, if used properly, fire itself can be a tool to prevent large wildfires
- equipped areas and scenic viewpoints (miradors) to encourage people to visit the woods with compatible activities like hiking or gathering firewood, offering a vigilant human presence that helps monitor and protect the forest heritage.



URBAN STRATEGY

Break to connect

Font del Gos should become the urban neighborhood where Barcelona rediscovers its point of contact with the park and the mountain; a place that brings social, environmental, and economic value. At the urban scale, this translates into the goal of **overcoming the historical isolation** of La Font del Gos. The single existing bus stop is inconvenient and inadequate, especially for the elderly population. The proposal is to extend the bus route to enter the neighborhood itself, with dedicated stops.

Moreover, our project supports easier crossing of the Ronda de Dalt via **pedestrian and cycle bridges**, which are already planned, to reconnect Font del Gos with Horta and, through it, with the entire city. The university with the Mundet Campus, the Agorà BCN student residence, the Labyrinth park, the velodrome, the *centre educatiu*. All these "*urban facts*" currently remain disconnected from the natural assets just meters away. Yet they already exist in the area and should be integrated into a system through new **inclusive public spaces**: for example, the new square south of the student residence, or the one

at Font del Gos - today just a parking lot - that can be transformed into the heart of the neighborhood, welcoming even visitors attracted by the Labyrinth park.

Meanwhile, the “Parc de Xavier Montsalvatge,” now desolate in its marginal location, will be linked to the new southern neighborhood through a helical ramp. The project also aims to renaturalize degraded and residual urban spaces, and to create gentle infrastructure in leftover interstitial areas through ramps and terraces. In particular, the proposal includes reopening sections of the Font del Gos stream wherever possible, so it can blend naturally into the urban context: along the road, then into the *plaça baixa* below the community center, and at the market.

NEIGHBOURHOOD STRATEGY

The proposed local-scale intervention is designed to be implemented in three phases: the first phase concerns **immediate action**. The idea is to apply tactical urbanism to reverse the current trend through citizen participation, starting with the use of temporary self-built **urban furniture** as an initial step. These light, adaptable installations require minimal resources, created to activate various places, and will be moved and reused over time. This phase is crucial to concretely experiment with transforming spaces and to gather residents' feedback to confirm or adjust the next phases.

The second phase aims to **remain over time**, introducing significant, more permanent changes in public space, which will then be consolidated by the third phase.

- **Camping area:** In a currently empty area among the mountains to the north, a new campsite will be created to attract visitors seeking outdoor experiences and, if necessary, serve as a floodwater retention basin. The campsite facilities are purposefully designed on raised platforms above ground level.

- **Urban fabric of Font del Gos:** the privileged position of the small plateau allows Font del Gos to develop a more orderly and regular urban fabric. The houses, mainly single family type, have large surrounding plots, often used for cultivation. Through targeted demolitions, the project improves the urban design by following existing geometries to return public and ecological services to the community.

- Phase 1: Temporary urban furniture initiates the transformation of the future square, while the removal of informal shacks in the area begins.

- Phase 2: The masia will host community spaces connected to agritourism, for local food production and social gatherings, becoming a new meeting point and productive center for the neighborhood in dialogue with the new square. A porticoed public space open to residents.

- Phase 3: A small two-story social housing complex will be built, carefully sized so as not to disrupt the neighborhood's character. It will house residents voluntarily relocated from dramatic living conditions in Cal Notari and new inhabitants. Each unit will have private outdoor space and share a communal courtyard.

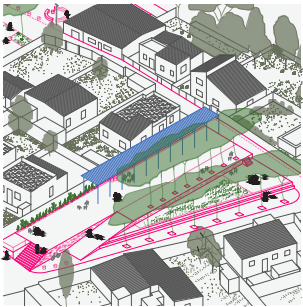
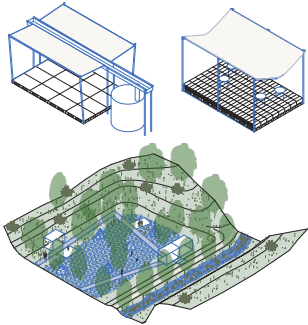
Community center

The project recognizes that today the community center is the real link between Font del Gos and Cal Notari and aims to strengthen this meeting place by expanding its functional program with new indoor and outdoor spaces.

- Phase 1: The two existing pavilions will remain until the new building is activated and will be enhanced through temporary urban furniture.

- Phase 2: A system of cultivated terraces will redesign the hillside, and an elevator will connect the *plaça baixa*, a calm, floodable village-like square, to the *plaça alta*, the lively urban heart. At the top, a new highly flexible volume will start to take shape, supporting current activities hosted by the community center and adding new ones: coworking, library, café, study and play areas, relaxation spaces, courses, and even a room for municipal offices, finally making Font del Gos a legitimate Barcelona neighborhood. The rooftop will include a sports field, playground, and an educational experimental garden.

- Phase 3: Once the new community center is complete, the two old pavilions will be demolished, making way for a large porticoed square capable of hosting outdoor events in the revived neighborhood.



Urban fabric of Cal Notari

In Cal Notari, the houses are “row houses” built against the mountainside, lacking rear openings, unhealthy and uncomfortable both functionally and in terms of accessibility. Limited economic resources during construction meant avoiding excavation, resulting in many houses without ground floors and creating blank walls along the street. Today these living conditions are unacceptable, yet it would be excessive - humanly, economically, and environmentally - to displace hundreds of residents from their homes. Therefore, the plan includes demolishing only the most severely degraded areas and selective thinning to create porosity in the urban fabric with new public or semi-public green spaces.

- Phase 1: Shacks will be removed from derelict lots to build pedestrian infrastructure cutting across hairpin turns, connecting the community center with the farthest parts of the settlement. The slope will be stabilized with anti-landslide terraces built using metal gabions that reuse demolition debris in a circular economy approach.

- Phase 2: Partial thinning will be carried out within selected lots to open new light and air corridors benefiting surrounding units. Each intervention will improve living conditions for three or more units, which will then share new connective services: large balconies, a stairwell, and an elevator.

- Phase 3: The urban fabric of Cal Notari will continue to evolve autonomously as it always has. However, through these interventions, its growth is guided toward dignified and sustainable living. The new openings created by thinning will give residents additional facades and new shared ground-floor spaces.

New southern urban cluster

Currently, the intervention area to the south is characterized by heavily paved parking spaces to the east and more permeable, green areas to the west. The project proposes densifying this neglected part of the neighborhood and bringing essential services missing in the neighborhood. Around the velodrome, there are empty urban spaces with many trees of limited quality for current use. The idea is to build three-story corridor-access social housing units with individual gardens, offered at affordable rents to attract families interested in the neighborhood's slower pace of life. On the student residence side, a shaded and equipped square will integrate with the existing setting, while the ground floor of the first block is planned for workspaces and commercial premises. To mitigate proximity to the motorway, a buffer zone of tall trees has been designed to protect the neighborhood acoustically, supported by a multi-story parking structure (which will replace car spaces removed from around the velodrome).

A multifunctional commercial building will host a supermarket run by the rural cooperative, a pharmacy, cafés, and ready-to-eat food outlets. In front of it, an open plaza will offer flexible space for weekly farmers' and flea markets. A green belt planted with community gardens equipped with tanks and reservoirs against drought will serve as a buffer between these two project zones. This wooded area will also feature a sports clearing with a playground and skate park overlooking panoramic views.

These valleys have been inhabited and cultivated since time immemorial, as shown by the agricultural buildings scattered across the Collserola mountains.

Through this project, Font del Gos can find its long-sought revival by restoring the lost harmony between people and nature in a new way of living, more aware of its history, resources, and capabilities.

