



**WAGENINGEN**  
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

# Future-proof Management of Public Space

Public space is the new frontier where future challenges will need to be met. As society calls for more livable, safe and sustainable environments, multiple spatial claims will collide in the public domain where ownership boundaries and different utility systems meet. Integrated and innovative management of public space is required to tackle upcoming challenges and accommodate energy transition, climate adaptation, circular economies, and mobility innovations. Moreover, there are upcoming windows of opportunities as many of these above ground and underground infrastructural systems and assets near the end of their lifecycle and require upgrading or maintenance. Future-proof public spaces necessitate a rethink of how their management and maintenance can become more innovative and adaptive in light of the expected and unexpected future transitions and challenges.



## Deadlines:

**Submission: 31 December 2021**

**Notification: 15 January 2022**

**Registration: 14 February 2022**

**Submit abstracts of max 300 words to [maps@wur.nl](mailto:maps@wur.nl)**

**See [www.wur.nl/en/project/maps.htm](http://www.wur.nl/en/project/maps.htm) for more program and registration.**

**10th - 11th of March 2022  
Wageningen, the Netherlands**

## I.A.M PUBLIC SPACE

Wageningen University and Research and the Foundation of Managing Public Space cordially invite you to the first International Academic symposium on Managing Public Space to explore ways forward for integrated and innovative management and maintenance of public space in an open academic dialogue. We seek presentations of exploratory papers and empirical studies on future-proof management of public space in the following themes and their related variations:

### **Post-Anthropocene Public Space**

Can existing public space be retrofitted for the future where the rebalancing of nature is the principal perspective for management or where potential smart 'digital' innovations (AI, digital twins, machine learning etc.) take a leading role?

### **The Learning Organizations**

What theories and methods can help organizations in the public domain learn and prepare for uncertainties in the future? How can operators and stakeholders of public space adapt and innovate?

### **Perception and value as reality**

How do users value and experience spatial quality in public spaces? How can the user experience better inform the planning, design and management of public space? What potential can social, cultural and cognition-based understandings help differentiate between sufficient and necessary conditions for optimal and desirable public space?

**Join the debate and our  
international academic  
network!**