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# The Inclusive ± 15-Minute City

**Dr.-Ing. Benjamin Büttner**

Head of Research Group Accessibility Planning  
Chair of Urban Structure and Transport Planning  
Technical University Munich &  
Editor-in-Chief at the Journal of Urban Mobility

**M.Sc. Sebastian Seisenberger**

Chair of Urban Structure and Transport Planning  
Technical University of Munich



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# The 15-Minute City

“an urban set-up where locals are able to access all of their basic essentials at distances that would not take them more than 15 min by foot or by bicycle”

Moreno, C., Allam, Z., Chabaud, D., Gall, C., Pratlong, F. (2021). Introducing the “15-Minute City”: Sustainability, Resilience and Place Identity in Future Post-Pandemic Cities. *Smart Cities*, 4, 93–111.

# The 15-Minute City

What are the essentials? To whom are they essential?

15 minutes for whom?

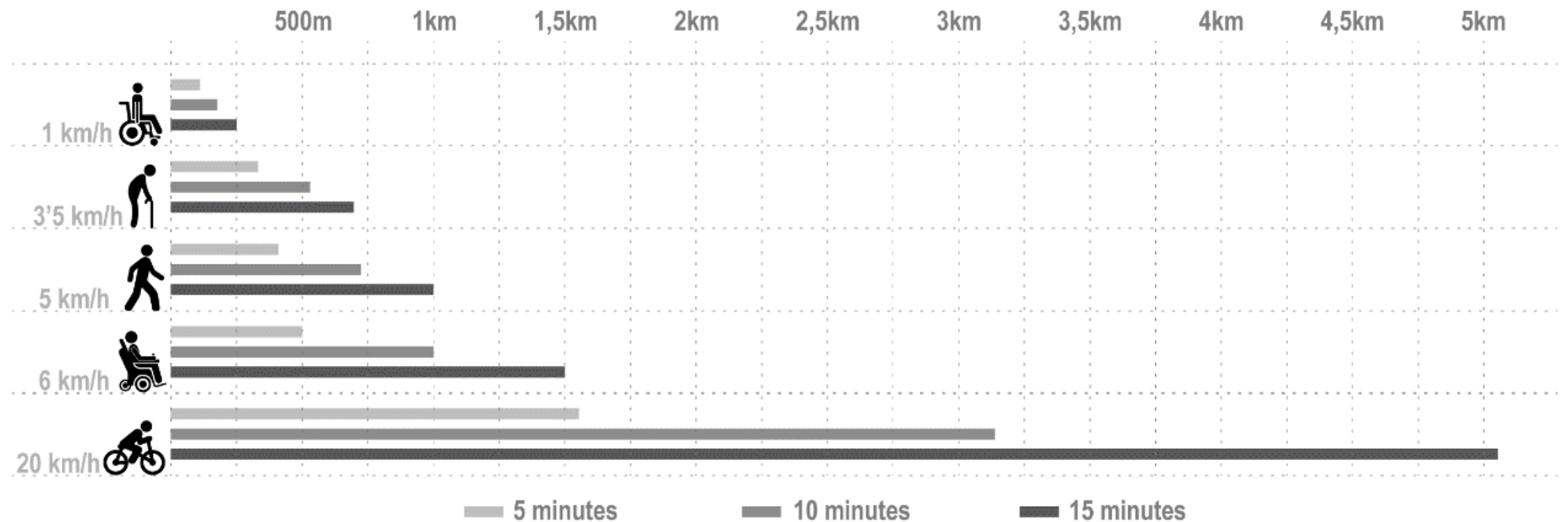
Including universal accessibility and affordability?

“an urban set-up where locals are **able to access** all of their **basic essentials** at distances that would not take them more than **15 min by foot or by bicycle**”

What about other modes of transport?

Moreno, C. & Ratlong, F. (2021). Introducing the “15-Minute City”: Sustainable Urban Identity in Future Post-Pandemic Cities. *Smart Cities*, 4, 93–111.

# How far do you get in 15 minutes?



Source: Büttner et al., 2022

Even if  
speed is not  
a problem...





...we might  
need to  
remove  
barriers



# Do $\pm 15$ -Minute City concepts consider vulnerable travelers?

	Walking	Cycling	Wheelchairs (and other aids)	(Local) Public Transport
Dublin (Ireland)*	X	X		
<b>Edinburgh (UK)</b>	X	X	X	X
Eugene (USA)	X	X		
Hailsham (UK)	X	X		X
<b>Kirkland (USA)</b>	X	X	X	
Melbourne (Australia)	X	X		X
Ottawa (Canda)	X	X		
Paris (France)	X	X		
<b>Portland (USA)</b>	X	X	X	
Singapore	X	X		X
Surrey County (UK)	X	X		X
Tempe (USA)	X	X		X
Utrecht (Netherlands)	X	X		

Source: Büttner et al., 2022, p. 6



In our theories,  
universal accessibility/  
inclusiveness is  
seldom considered



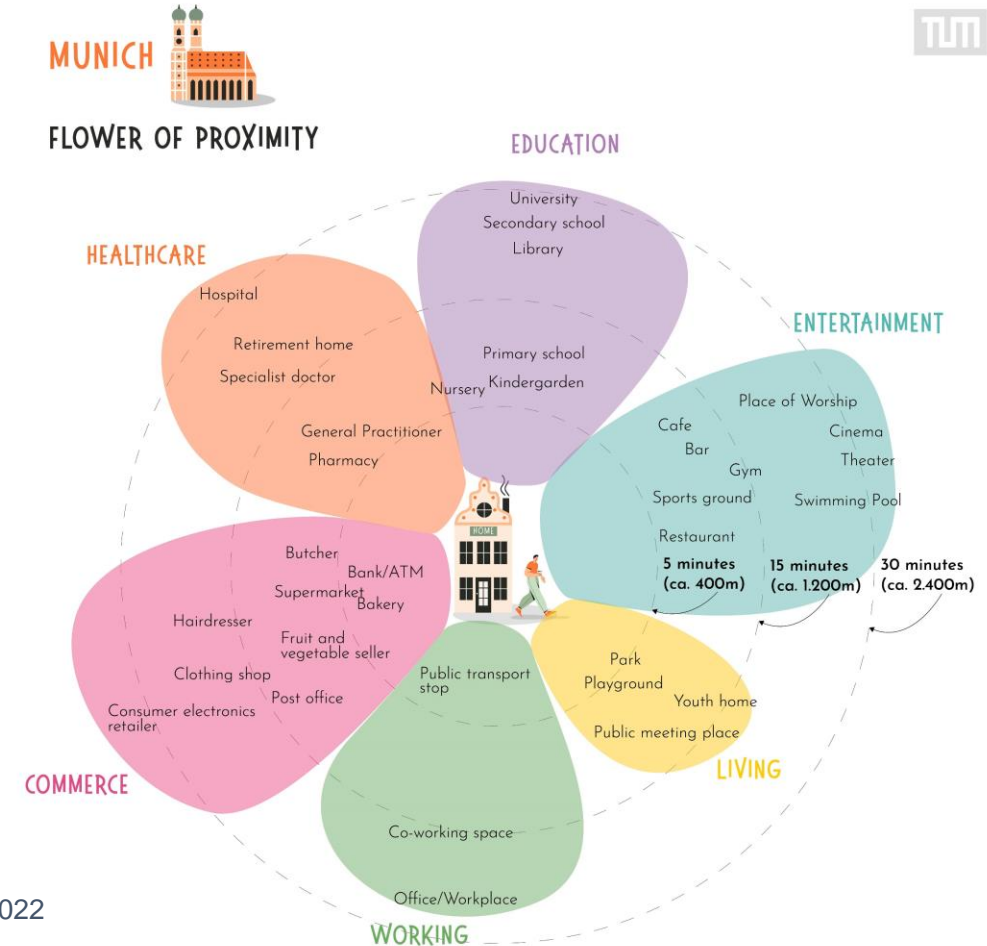
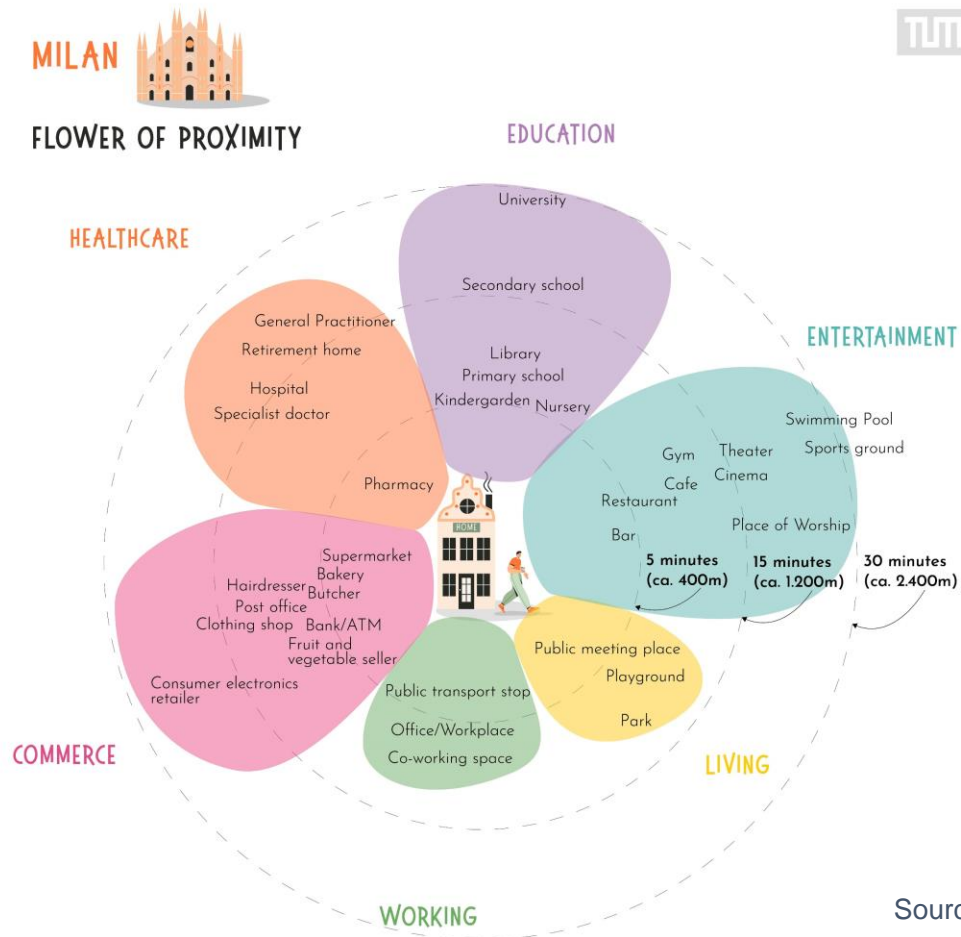
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# From the 1890s till today...

Neighborhood Planning Movements	Proximity	Density	Diversity	Mixed-Use	Modularity	Adaptability	Flexibility	Human-Scale Design	Connectivity	Digitalization
Garden city	×	×	✓	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×
Neighborhood unit	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×
Modernism	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
Post-modernism	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	✓	✓	×
Eco-urbanism	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	✓	×	✓	✓	✓
15-minute city	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Source: Khavarian-Garmsir et al., 2023

# Lastly, the „basic essentials“ might also be different in different contexts and for different people



Source: Büttner et al., 2022

# ±15-MINUTE CITY PLANNING PRINCIPLES

## 1. PROXIMITY TO ESSENTIAL SERVICES



Residents can access essential services within a reasonable time by foot, bicycle or other non-motorised devices.

## 2. PROXIMITY TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT



Residents have public transport nearby and free of barriers, to reach areas outside of their home's vicinity without having to rely on a car.

## 3. DENSITY



The population and employment density of an area supports the existence of local businesses and services.

## 4. MIXED LAND USE



Residents find a variety of land uses that fulfil all their daily needs and urban functions close to their homes.

## 5. WALKABLE AND BIKEABLE STREETS



Walking and cycling paths are well connected, free of barriers and comfortable for pedestrians, cyclists, and all other non-motorised road users.

## 6. PLACEMAKING



Co-creation of places together with the community to strengthen the connection and identity to new destinations according to their needs.

## 7. INCLUSIVENESS



All residents are able to move safely and free of barriers in public spaces and make use of services, irrespective of their individual capabilities, age, gender or origin.

## 8. UBIQUITY



All these characteristics, should be so widespread that they are available to each resident all around the cities, irrespective of their socio-economic and demographic status.

Source: Büttner et al., 2022



# From small changes to the transformation of the city

## HOW TO ACHIEVE SYSTEMIC CHANGE?



This process should be applied simultaneously in other neighbourhoods.

Source: Büttner et al., 2022

# Some question that remain open



Do we need to move away from time to distance? How far should destinations be? How far for walking? For cycling?



Which amenities should be prioritized? Do we need a wider definition of “basic essentials”?



How do we include everyone and ensure that their needs are met? Is this feasible?

<https://www.eiturbanmobility.eu/%c2%b115-minute-city-human-centred-planning-in-action/>



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