

Santa Maria is increasingly becoming more and more uninhabitable. A village with no parks and no streets where people can walk or cycle without danger. Children and old people are especially at risk. Every day more cars and lorries circulate and park everywhere. Our quality of life has degenerated considerably in recent years.

Santa Maria is losing its traditional urban landscape with the proliferation of buildings which have nothing in common with the character of the old village. We are living in a village without law and order, where everyone does as they please urbanistically. We must save what is left of our traditional architecture and rural landscape. We cannot continue like this,

Santa Maria must take a different route



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alternativa is the option to go the other way. The way where the general interests and welfare of the majority has priority over private interests. The way of making a village for people and not cars. The way of rational urban planning. The way to the participation of everybody in municipal decisions.

alternativa is a local independent group that arises in response to the ineptitude, lack of foresight and initiative of the municipal government and the absence of alternatives from the opposition.

There is no other **alternativa**

A more habitable village for people

Every day it is more difficult to get around the village on foot or by bicycle. Small children can no longer go out unaccompanied in the street, and old people find it difficult to walk along the streets. Walking with a pushchair is an extremely difficult task and maneuvering a wheelchair is impossible. Most pavements are impassable or nonexistent and cars invade everywhere.

The alternative is to give priority to pedestrians and bicycles by restricting the circulation of traffic to many old village streets.

While creating pedestrian and bicycle streets measures can also be taken to reduce traffic and the presence of cars and lorries in our streets and squares. To do this car parks must be created on the edge of the center to dissuade motorists from driving everywhere.

Villagers as well as those who visit us will be able to get around the village more on foot or by bicycle if we make it easier for them and more difficult for cars.



Now that we finally have the school on the outskirts of the village, the town council has not completed its promise of creating safe access. The crossing at the streets of J. Jaume Pons and Joan Mesquida is one of the most dangerous areas for pedestrians and cyclists, and where lots of children must pass on their way to and from school.

The creation of safe access to the school is a priority.

Safety for pedestrians

The Palma-Inca road runs through the village, as well as all entrances to the village, they are a hazard and a major nuisance in the life of the residents. Santa Maria is the only village which has the Palma-Inca road running through it without any traffic lights. Years ago the town council pledged it would install them after there had been a fatal accident on this urban road. We can not wait until there is another fatality before we take action.



A few years ago the town council reformed the Coanegra Street without even worrying about the pavements.



The Can Capó Square despite the facelift it's been given, it's nothing more than a large car-park.

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Industrial estate access which doesn't pass through the village center



The industrial traffic of cars, vans, lorries the comes and goes to the industrial estates of Son Llaut and Consell can't continue passing through the most central streets of Santa Maria. Direct access from the motorway to the industrial estates is an urgent necessity and priority.

To walk through the countryside (Foravila)

Nowadays it's a high risk adventure to leave the village to go for a walk or a cycle ride. All accesses to the village are designed only for cars.

The creation of pedestrian and cycle paths on the roads that leave the village is urgent, starting with the access to the Can

Borrelló urbanization, which could be done easily taking advantage of the old Sa Siquia Road.



Las Cases de Son Llaut, where numerous youth activities take place (music school, the scouts, centro de entidades) is very far from the village and without pedestrian and bicycle access. The creation of these accesses is essential if it is to continue to be used as a cultural center.

Culture and Sport

The absence of a cultural policy has resulted in locals visiting neighbouring villages in search of cinema, theatre and musical and cultural events. Due to lack of interest by the authorities the Cases dels Mestres Centre is underused.

The festivals have become a «Bread and Circuses» without the dynamics necessary to promote culture for everyone.

Instead of creating local schools, either tennis, football or other sports, the actions and decisions of the government team has created a division between users of the sports field.

It is very difficult to find a village with more than 6,000 inhabitants, which is Santa Maria's case, that doesn't have an indoor swimming pool, a dignified sports pavilion, or with a municipal swimming pool so small and with such limited space to enjoy during the summer.

Transparency

Access to all administrative information must be open to all citizens as recognized by law. This access should be easy and fast and the town council has to put a maximum of interest in facilitating rather than in obstructing as it has been doing so far. All public documents must be exhibited on the internet.

We are entitled to know, among other things, how the town council spends every Euro of taxpayers money.

Participation and democracy

The important decisions and municipal politics can not be taken without the participation and discussion of all the villagers or anyone interested.

Democracy doesn't mean only voting once every four years. It's not possible to make an amendment to the planning regulations like the town council have done in recent years where the only participation of the municipal opposition and the village has been limited to the possibility of filing claims within the statutory period of public exhibition. It's an insult to all citizens.

All major projects of the municipality must be submitted before a popular debate in meetings and through the internet. Changes to planning regulations, decisions on waste collection, the use of public facilities, the wine museum, mobility, **these things are much to important to leave solely in the hands of the politicians.**

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WE HAVE TO STOP THESE TOWN PLANNING REFORMS

The PSM began a reform of the planning regulations 13 years ago. In all this time they have failed to approve it due to incompetence and lack of management.

The majority of the changes intended to improve the pending reform are nothing more than an excuse to distribute favors to a handful of owners and developers, against the interests of the people.

These are some the of the more outrageous aspects of this urban project.

1.- Urban growth is being carried out contrary to a legal and ration approach. Causing the village to become clogged. Instead what they do is re-qualify land on the outskirts of the village and on the other side of the planned ring road, making the village even more disjointed and causing more mobility problems.

Some of these reclassifications of rustic land to totally free buildable land benefit persons connected professionally or familiarly with the Major who promoted the reforms.

2.-It allows three-story buildings in narrow streets.

3.- Shrinking parkland/ green areas.

4.- Roundabouts counted as parkland against the statutory criteria.

5.- Pavements counted as parkland against the statutory criteria.

6.- The total parkland/green area provided is below the legal minimum set by the number of inhabitants.



7.- Developable areas that become urbanizable by decree, give millions in profit to the owners (they save the costs of the urbanization and the cession of land to the council).

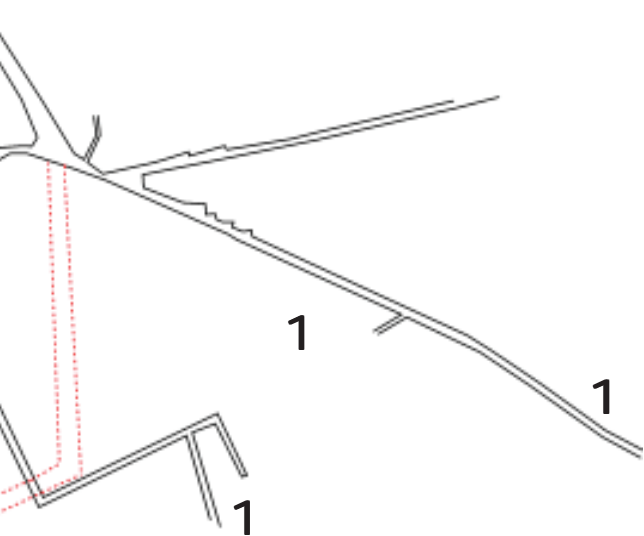
The village turns out to be the big loser with the loss of thousands of square meters of land plots, which it would gain and be free to urbanize.

8.- The train station will be left without parking as the only remaining land next to it will be declared buildable.

The parking lots next to the stations are indispensable if we want to encourage people to use the public transport.

9.- The route of the planned ring road will leave the school and the future Secondary Education School (Instituto) separated from the village, making access and communication even more difficult.

10.- There are no plans for the pedestrianization of new streets.



13 years to reform the planning regulations without success, is the clearest evidence of the lack of management capacity of the municipal government.

We need a competent council with the courage to take bold decisions which might sometimes go against the interests of a minority but will favor those in the majority.

With another urban policy a different village is possible.

These are some of the proposals of ALTERNATIVA in relation to the town planning regulations of Santa Maria.

- More parks and open spaces so that their total exceeds the legal minimum required in terms of number of inhabitants.
- Limit a maximum height of two-story buildings in narrow streets.
- Provide public car parks on the outskirts of the town in order to reduce the number of cars driving and parking in the town's streets.
- Oblige new residential constructions to have a minimum of two car parking spaces.
- Redesign the layout of the projected ring road so as not to pass between the school and the village.
- Allocate a site for the Secondary School (Instituto) on the existing urbanizable plot next to the municipal sports centre.
- Allocate a portion of the developable land to public housing.
- No growth of developable land outside the perimeter of the planned ring road.
- New buildings should fit the typology and traditional dimensions of the village: houses with one or two homes. No more apartment buildings and rows of identical semi-detached houses.



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Recover and conserve the urban and rural landscape.



It's still not too late to prevent further destruction of our village and its landscape. For example, this view of the parish church will be hidden by apartments if we don't find a solution. Instead it would be better for this to become a park/green area.



Fortunately there are still well preserved rural areas. It requires a strong policy to prevent the proliferation of buildings in Foravila.



So far the construction of tall buildings in narrow streets has been allowed and there is the intention to continue this trend. We believe this has to stop.



The traditional character of Santa Maria has already been marred too much we have to avoid this continual degradation.



Urban discipline

Santa Maria is one of the towns where illegal construction on rural land has been allowed to proliferate a lot, without the council doing something about it.

Compliance with building regulations is essential for the preservation of the urban and rural landscapes. Santa Maria can not continue with the attitude of total permissiveness that has been applied so far by the council towards illegal building. We can not continue without a caretaker of works to ensure vigilance in respect of the law.



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Luckily some urban and rural violations can still be remedied.

It is only willingness that is needed to enable Santa Maria to stop being a village without urbanistic law and order.

Foravila rubbish collection

The unilateral decision of the council to remove the rubbish containers in Foravila is the denial of a basic public service which had been at their disposal until recently.

The council withdrew this service without consulting or even notifying the residents concerned and without offering an alternative solution, it is an abuse of power and an anti-democratic act.

The Alternativa is to make home collection in the most populated roads of Foravila, where the rubbish lorry already passes. The installation of supervised green/rubbish points which are more accessible for the neighbours.

Not to renounce the train trench



The popular mobilization for such a reasonable and sensible cause as the train trench has failed to make the politicians who are carrying out this project see reason.

We think that the fight must not be stopped or forgotten, we must regain a new momentum with all the people of the village and with a town council that gets involved with courage and conviction.

A more rational market



The Sunday market has a negative impact on the lives of Santa Marias residents. Unlike other municipalities, on Sundays people try not to go out or they leave the village. Questions should be raised as to the size and location of the market in order to reduce its negative impact on villagers' lives.

There should be an increase in market stalls for home grown/made products and alternative and ecological produce. The residents of Santa Maria should be able to go out for a quiet stroll through the village on Sundays.

The saving and taking advantage of water



To contribute to a better use of water and prevent it being wasted, and the need for progressive water rates.

Reclaim all the public roads and footpaths



The approval of the catalogue of roads developed by the Island's Council has so far been eluded for the benefit of landowners.

The destruction of the 'Es Cabás' road is a consequence of the negligence of the authorities. This road should be opened immediately and the authorities responsible held accountable for the destruction of this centuries old heritage site.

Free food and drink only for the needy

It is scandalous that the town council uses taxpayers money to raise patronage and votes based on inviting people to eat and drink at will, and taking advantage of the slightest opportunity.

The town council has to give food and drink only to those who need it.

For this reason because we are consistent and because we don't want to buy your votes, but win them with our electoral programme, the Alternativa candidates won't be inviting you out to dinner.

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- For the defence of the general interests and welfare of the majority over private interests
- For the defence of the environment and landscape.
- For a liveable village for residents, with racional planning.
- For absolute transparency in public management and popular participation.



Mateu Vic, candidate for Lord Mayor
(standing)
Gabi Amengual, candidate number 2
(sitting)

VOTE

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