



# Multigation Winterthur

The multiplicative imagination of citizens

Imagining together the future of Grütze and making Winterthur a 15-minute city.



### What is Multigation?

This international research-action project places imagination and collective intelligence with residents at the heart of urban transformation. In Winterthur (Grütze district), it involves residents and users in the transformations to create a 15-minute city for a new quality of life and lifestyles adapted to climate change. The idea is for all the city's services and amenities to be accessible within a 15-minute walk. Multigation is one of the winning projects in the European Driving Urban Transition programme.

### Project schedule (2025-2026)

The first phase will mobilise the Unlimited Cities co-imagination platform to capture the aspirations of citizens. The second phase will involve consulting the public by voting on proposals for the whole district. These proposals will incorporate the citizens' contributions previously collected in the work of the urban planners and the city. The third phase will be to carry out a small-scale pilot of the project, incorporating products from innovative companies for the City of 15 Minutes and a civic crowdfunding initiative supported by the city to give citizens greater autonomy in making proposals and taking decisions.

*To find out more about Multigation and keep up to date with forthcoming events*

### Unlimited Cities: a digital commons for urban planning

Free and open source software developed with cities and used on several continents, supported and shared by the Geneva-based Open Urbanism Foundation, this civic platform is being improved thanks to feedback from each project. The improvements co-created in Winterthur will in turn feed into projects in Europe, Africa, South America and Asia. Documentation licence: CC BY-SA 4.0 Software licence: GNU AGPL 3.0

### Open Data

The Unlimited Cities platform and all its analyses are accessible as open data, so as to avoid any opacity in decision-making. This transparency means that cities can benefit from a wide range of viewpoints and make informed decisions that are committed to the future and include citizens and users.

### Digital efficiency

Unlimited Cities is inspired by the collage technique used by Surrealist artists to encourage imagination and creativity. By inviting participants to create their own visual collages, rather than relying on images produced by artificial intelligence, the platform confronts them with choices and hesitations, allowing for deeper reflection than a simple like or dislike. By transforming participants into true co-creators of their environment alongside professionals, Unlimited Cities enables urban planners, municipalities and NGOs to reach out to the diversity of residents in public spaces. In this way, Unlimited Cities responds to the recommendations of researchers and UN-Habitat for the successful sustainable transformation of cities and the countryside, by building cities with people, not just for them.

### Digital responsibility

On a technical level, Unlimited Cities focuses on simplicity and efficiency. By avoiding complex 3D images and the massive generation of images by AI, the platform limits the load on networks and reduces its energy footprint. To analyse citizens' contributions, we are currently experimenting with open source artificial intelligence models, installed locally with our partner, the FreeIT Foundation. The aim of this approach is to guarantee the transparency of the process and maintain reasonable energy consumption.

*To find out more about Unlimited Cities and the data it collects*

### Respect for privacy

Unlimited Cities is developing a database containing your username, the time and place where you made the mix, your mix, your comment and the associated tags. This database is available as open data and enables analyses to be built from open data. Geolocation and date can be used to sort the mixes made in the project area with the help of mediators, and it is also possible to differentiate between mixes made independently, including from other areas. The database will not contain pseudonyms, which will be anonymised. This database is shared in open data.

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