

Article

Social Responsiveness in Architectural Design under Urban Renewal: An Indicator-Based Study

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Abstract: Urban renewal has increasingly shifted the focus of contemporary architectural design from the mere production of isolated, aesthetically driven objects toward the strategic organization of socially durable and inclusive places. As cities undergo rapid transformation, the need to integrate social dimensions into spatial planning becomes paramount. This paper systematically studies how architectural design can effectively respond to core social dimensions—namely publicness, spatial accessibility, collective memory continuity, and civic participation—within complex urban renewal contexts. To achieve this, the research develops a novel, comprehensive Social Responsiveness Index (SRI). This methodological framework combines verified secondary urbanization data with a highly transparent, scenario-based design audit dataset to rigorously evaluate spatial interventions. The empirical results demonstrate that traditional object-led renewal approaches consistently produce the lowest social responsiveness scores. In stark contrast, community co-designed initiatives and street-edge micro-renewal scenarios perform significantly better. These approaches succeed because they actively connect accessible pedestrian routes, foster active ground-floor interfaces, preserve local historical memory, and encourage sustainable post-occupancy governance. The primary contribution of this research is both methodological and conceptual: it successfully translates abstract social-science concerns into concrete, measurable design indicators without reducing the inherent complexity and quality of architectural design to simplistic numerical scoring alone. Ultimately, the study compellingly argues that socially responsive architecture should be fundamentally evaluated by its capacity to facilitate human interaction and by what it actively enables diverse groups of people to do together in their everyday urban life.

Keywords: architectural design; urban renewal; public space; social inclusion; design audit

1. Introduction

Architecture is often introduced as the synthesis of function, technology, and form. While this definition remains useful, it is insufficient when buildings are placed within dense urban neighborhoods undergoing renewal. In such contexts, even seemingly minor design elements, such as a stair, a threshold, a facade line, a bench, or a management rule, can significantly influence whether a space becomes inclusive and welcoming for everyday use or subtly excludes certain groups. This highlights that architectural design is not merely a material response to a program brief but also a social arrangement that determines the distribution of visibility, access, comfort, memory, and responsibility. These aspects are critical in shaping how individuals and communities interact with their built environment, particularly in urban areas where space is contested and diverse needs must be accommodated. By considering these social dimensions, architects can create environments that foster inclusivity and shared experiences, rather than perpetuating exclusion or inequality.

The urgency for adopting a social perspective in architectural design is growing [1]. The global urban population has been steadily increasing, with projections indicating that it will rise from less than half of the world's population at the start of the century to nearly

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two-thirds by the middle of this century. This rapid urbanization underscores the need for renewal projects to address not only aesthetic and functional concerns but also social inclusion. Additionally, the diversity of users that architects must consider is expanding. A significant portion of the global population experiences disabilities, which necessitates design solutions that accommodate a wide range of physical and cognitive needs. These demographic trends do not dictate a single architectural approach but emphasize the importance of evaluating renewal projects based on their ability to promote inclusivity alongside traditional metrics such as image, efficiency, and cost. By prioritizing social inclusion, architects can contribute to creating urban environments that are equitable and accessible for all.

This paper explores a central question: how can architectural design in the context of urban renewal be assessed as a social practice? The proposed answer is an indicator-based framework that bridges social-science concepts with design decisions [2, 3]. This framework does not suggest that numerical indicators can replace the nuanced judgment of professionals. Instead, it aims to make the social assumptions underlying design choices more explicit, enabling them to be discussed, critiqued, and refined. By incorporating data, formulas, and comparative scoring, the framework provides a structured approach to evaluating the social impact of architectural projects. This method allows for a more transparent and systematic assessment of how design decisions influence social outcomes, fostering a deeper understanding of the interplay between architecture and society. Ultimately, this approach seeks to empower architects and planners to create spaces that are not only functional and visually appealing but also socially inclusive and responsive to the needs of diverse urban populations (As shown in Table 1).

Table 1. Urban Population Share by Region

Region	2000 (%)	2025 (%)	2050 (%)	Change 2025-2050
World	46.8	57.8	67.3	9.5
Sub-Saharan Africa	32.8	45.1	60.0	14.9
Eastern and South-Eastern Asia	41.2	64.7	82.1	17.4
Latin America and the Caribbean	75.6	81.5	87.6	6.1
Europe and Northern America	73.8	77.1	83.2	6.1

Note: Data are from UN DESA World Urbanization Prospects 2025: Summary of Results [1].

2. Literature Review

2.1. Space as Social Production

The social-science turn in architectural research begins with the recognition that space is not neutral. Space is actively shaped and reshaped through the interplay of social relations, institutions, representations, and everyday practices. This perspective challenges the traditional view of architectural elements as merely technical or aesthetic constructs. For architectural design, plans, sections, and material choices are not just tools for construction; they are mechanisms that define access, visibility, and movement [4]. These elements determine who is allowed to enter a space, who is permitted to stay, who can observe, who is observed, and who is implicitly or explicitly excluded. Urban renewal projects, therefore, cannot be assessed solely based on physical improvements, such as the repair or modernization of buildings. Instead, they must also be evaluated on their ability to foster inclusivity and create opportunities for shared experiences and interactions. A repaired space that perpetuates exclusionary practices fails to achieve meaningful progress, whereas one that encourages new patterns of coexistence and engagement represents a more socially responsible outcome.

This perspective fundamentally redefines the role of the architect. Rather than being a detached creator imposing form onto a passive site, the architect operates within a complex network of stakeholders, including residents, property owners, government agencies, maintenance teams, investors, and informal users [1]. Each of these groups

interacts with and interprets the same space differently, bringing diverse needs, expectations, and concerns. For instance, a service corridor might be viewed as a technical necessity by one group, a convenient shortcut by another, and a source of unease or insecurity by yet another. Socially responsive design begins by acknowledging and valuing these varied perspectives as critical inputs rather than dismissing them as irrelevant or disruptive. By treating these differences as evidence to inform the design process, architects can create spaces that are more inclusive, adaptable, and reflective of the diverse ways in which people engage with their environments. This approach not only enhances the functionality of a space but also contributes to its social and cultural relevance, ensuring that it serves the needs of all users more effectively.

2.2. Public Life and Everyday Use

Jacobs emphasized the significance of everyday street life in urban theory by illustrating how diversity, small-scale interactions, and continuous street activity contribute to the vitality of neighborhoods. Gehl expanded on this by linking public life to tangible aspects of pedestrian experience, such as walking distances, the conditions of edges, the availability of seating, protection from environmental elements, and opportunities for engaging in optional activities [5]. Similarly, Whyte's analysis of small urban spaces highlighted that public life thrives on seemingly simple features, including movable chairs, access to sunlight, food options, ledges, and the interplay between areas designed for movement and those meant for staying. These foundational ideas collectively underscore the importance of designing urban environments that prioritize human interaction and accessibility, ensuring that public spaces remain vibrant and inclusive. By focusing on these elements, urban planners and architects can create spaces that foster community engagement and enhance the overall quality of life in cities.

The insights from these works are particularly relevant to architectural design as they shift the focus from the aesthetic qualities of a building to its functional interface with the public realm. A building, no matter how visually sophisticated, can fail socially if its ground floor is dominated by blank walls, if it privatizes its entry points, eliminates informal seating, or confines public life to commercial interiors. On the other hand, even a modest urban renewal project can achieve significant social impact by maintaining permeable edges, providing shaded areas, supporting low-cost lingering, and respecting established pedestrian paths. This perspective redefines publicness as a practical design condition rather than merely a legal category of ownership [6]. By integrating these principles, architects and urban designers can create spaces that are not only visually appealing but also socially inclusive, fostering a sense of belonging and community. Such an approach ensures that urban environments remain dynamic and responsive to the needs of their inhabitants.

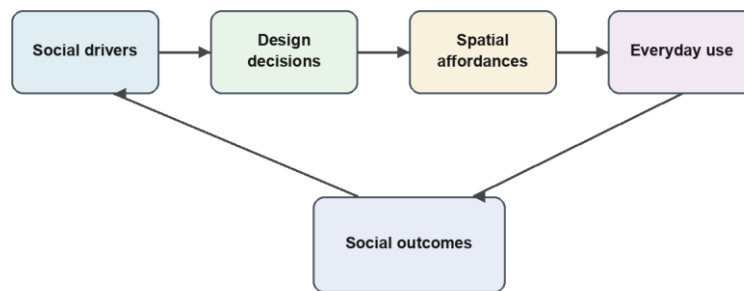
2.3. Spatial Configuration, Culture and Agency

Space syntax research provides a valuable framework for understanding how spatial configuration influences social interactions and movement patterns. The arrangement of routes, thresholds, and spatial depth plays a critical role in shaping how individuals navigate and encounter one another within a given environment [7]. For instance, urban renewal projects that introduce visually appealing facilities but disrupt existing pedestrian pathways may inadvertently hinder social integration by reducing connectivity. Conversely, projects that prioritize the creation of clear, navigable routes and overlapping areas of use can enhance informal surveillance and foster a sense of social familiarity. This highlights the importance of designing spaces that not only meet aesthetic and functional goals but also promote inclusivity and community cohesion. By carefully considering spatial configurations, designers can create environments that encourage meaningful social interactions and support a more integrated urban fabric.

Anthropological perspectives on public space emphasize that culture and power dynamics are deeply embedded in seemingly ordinary environments. Public spaces, while often perceived as neutral grounds for civic engagement, can be managed in ways that exclude individuals or groups who do not align with a preferred image. This is

particularly relevant in the context of urban renewal, where commercial branding and privatization may be mistaken for genuine public improvement. Such practices can undermine the social value of these spaces by prioritizing economic interests over inclusivity. Therefore, the assessment of architectural design should extend beyond spatial affordances to include governance practices that influence how spaces are used and by whom. Designers must remain vigilant to ensure that public spaces serve as platforms for diverse expressions and interactions, rather than becoming tools for exclusion or control. This dual focus on spatial and social dimensions is essential for creating environments that are both functional and equitable (As shown in Figure 1).

Socially Responsive Architectural Design Framework



Drivers include renewal pressure, demographic diversity and institutional capacity. Feedback returns post-occupancy evidence to design governance.

Figure 1. Socially Responsive Architectural Design Framework

3. Research Design

3.1. Indicator Framework

The study develops a Social Responsiveness Index to evaluate and compare different urban renewal scenarios. This index is structured around five key indicators: physical accessibility, public edge and openness, memory continuity, participation depth, and governance and maintenance. These indicators are carefully chosen to align with established methodologies in urban design and participatory planning. They also reflect the multidimensional nature of urban design quality, encompassing social, functional, perceptual, temporal, and governance aspects [8]. By focusing on these dimensions, the index aims to provide a comprehensive yet practical tool for assessing the social impact of urban renewal projects.

The indicators are intentionally designed to be straightforward and user-friendly. Their primary purpose is to facilitate early-stage design reviews, comparative analyses in academic studios, or discussions during project planning. They are not intended to replace detailed post-occupancy evaluations but rather to serve as a preliminary assessment tool. Each indicator is scored on a scale from 0 to 100, where a score of 0 indicates the complete absence or contradiction of the dimension, 50 represents a baseline or conventional minimum standard, and 100 signifies strong support and thorough documentation of the dimension [9]. To ensure relevance and adaptability, weights are assigned to each indicator, reflecting their relative importance in the context of urban renewal.

$$SRI_i = \sum_{k=1}^5 w_k z_{ik}, z_{ik} = x_{ik} / 100, \sum_{k=1}^5 w_k = 1$$

(1)

$$Gap_i = 100 - SRI_i$$

(2)

In formula (1), SRI_i represents the Social Responsiveness Index for a specific renewal scenario, while x_{ik} denotes the raw score of that scenario on a particular indicator. The term z_{ik} refers to the normalized score, calculated by dividing x_{ik} by 100. The weights assigned to each indicator, represented as w_k , sum up to 1, ensuring a balanced

evaluation framework. Formula (2) calculates the gap between the assessed scenario's score and the maximum achievable social responsiveness score, providing a clear metric for identifying areas requiring improvement [10] (As shown in Table 2).

Table 2. Social Responsiveness Indicators and Weights

Indicator	Code	Weight	Design meaning
Physical accessibility	A	0.25	Barrier-free access, legible routes, seating, shade and safe crossings.
Public edge and openness	P	0.20	Active ground floor, transparent boundary, non-commercial staying space.
Memory continuity	M	0.15	Retention of recognizable traces, local narratives and everyday routes.
Participation depth	C	0.20	Resident workshops, feedback loops and documented design revisions.
Governance and maintenance	G	0.20	Clear stewardship, affordable upkeep and post-occupancy adjustment.

Note: Weights sum to 1.00. Scores are interpreted on a 0-100 scale.

3.2. Data Structure

The paper utilizes two distinct types of data to support its analysis. The first type comprises verified secondary data sourced from UN DESA, which serves to illustrate the demographic pressures that drive urban renewal initiatives. This dataset provides a foundational understanding of the broader contextual factors influencing urban development. The second type of data is a transparent, scenario-based audit dataset. Unlike traditional field surveys or data collected directly from respondents, this dataset is specifically designed as a reproducible demonstration tool. Its purpose is to enable design teams to systematically compare the social consequences of various urban renewal strategies. By focusing on reproducibility, the dataset ensures that the methodology can be adapted and applied in diverse contexts, allowing for iterative refinement and validation of the proposed strategies.

The scenario-based dataset includes five distinct renewal strategies: object-led landmark renewal, commercial mixed-use renewal, community co-designed service hub, adaptive reuse with cultural memory, and inclusive street-edge micro-renewal. These scenarios are representative of prevalent approaches in contemporary urban renewal practices. Each scenario is accompanied by illustrative scoring values, which are not definitive but serve as examples to demonstrate the underlying scoring logic. This transparency allows readers to adjust the scores or weights as needed and to replicate the calculations independently [11]. By doing so, the dataset promotes a participatory and flexible approach to evaluating urban renewal strategies, ensuring that diverse stakeholder perspectives can be incorporated into the decision-making process. This methodological clarity enhances the practical applicability of the research findings (As shown in Table 3).

Table 3. Scenario-based Social Design Audit Dataset

Scenario	A	P	M	C	G	SRI	Gap
Object-led landmark renewal	62	48	40	35	50	48.1	51.9
Commercial mixed-use renewal	70	55	45	45	60	56.2	43.8
Community co-designed service hub	86	82	78	90	76	82.8	17.2
Adaptive reuse with cultural memory	78	75	88	70	72	76.1	23.9
Inclusive street-edge micro-renewal	82	88	74	76	84	81.2	18.8

Note: A = accessibility, P = public edge, M = memory continuity, C = participation, G = governance. Dataset is scenario-based and reproducible.

4. Empirical Analysis

4.1. Urbanization Pressure and Design Demand

The urbanization data in Table 1 and Figure 2 highlight the critical importance of addressing social responsiveness in urban planning and design. Projections indicate that the global urban population share will increase by 9.5 percentage points between 2025 and 2050, with Eastern and South-Eastern Asia expected to reach an urbanization level of 82.1 percent by 2050. This rapid urbanization presents distinct challenges for both mature and developing urban regions [3]. In established urban areas, the focus shifts to revitalizing existing spaces in ways that preserve and enhance social cohesion, rather than merely expanding built environments. Conversely, in regions experiencing accelerated urban growth, the primary challenge lies in ensuring that newly constructed environments remain socially relevant and adaptable over time, avoiding the risk of premature obsolescence. These dynamics underscore the necessity of integrating social considerations into urban development strategies to foster sustainable and inclusive urban environments.

Urban Population Share by Region, 2000-2050

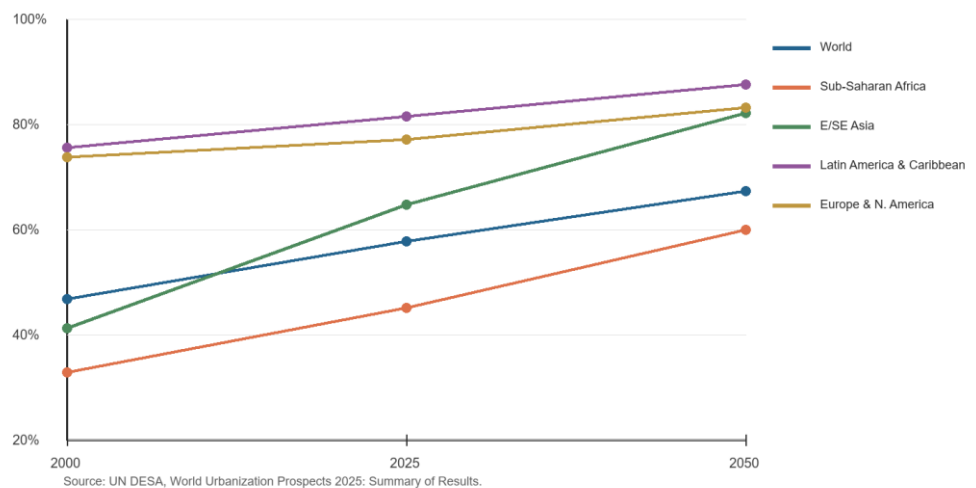


Figure 2. Urbanization Trend Data Used as Contextual Evidence

From an architectural standpoint, the implications of these urbanization trends are profound, necessitating a reevaluation of design priorities [12]. First, in areas undergoing renewal, buildings must be designed to enhance the public edge, as higher population densities amplify the significance of shared spaces and thresholds. These zones serve as critical interfaces between private and communal realms, fostering interaction and connectivity. Second, accessibility must be prioritized from the outset of the design process, reflecting the inherent demographic diversity of urban life. Treating accessibility as an afterthought risks marginalizing significant segments of the population and undermining the inclusivity of urban spaces. Third, the continuity of memory and place is essential, particularly in renewal zones where residents often have established spatial routines, local narratives, and informal support networks. Preserving these intangible elements can strengthen community identity and resilience, ensuring that redevelopment efforts do not disrupt the social fabric. Collectively, these design demands highlight the need for a holistic approach that balances physical development with the preservation of social and cultural dimensions (As shown in Figure 3).

Social Responsiveness Index by Renewal Scenario

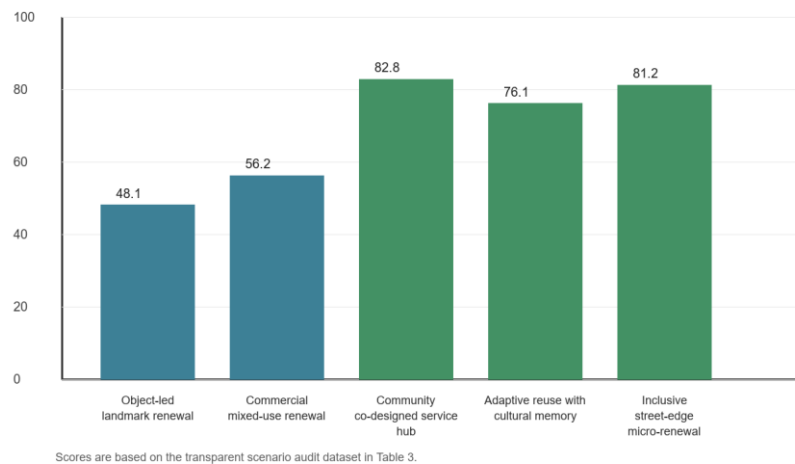


Figure 3. Social Responsiveness Index by Renewal Scenario

4.2. Scenario Audit Results

The scenario audit reveals a significant distinction between object-centered renewal strategies and those that are socially embedded. Object-led landmark renewal strategies, which prioritize iconic architectural designs, receive the lowest SRI score due to their weak performance in areas such as public edge, memory continuity, and participation. The core issue is not that landmark architecture is inherently problematic but that a design approach overly focused on visual impact often neglects the everyday realities of how people interact with and utilize spaces. This approach can result in spaces that prioritize image over functionality, thereby failing to address the nuanced ways in which communities engage with their environment. By emphasizing aesthetics over practical usability, such strategies risk alienating the very users they aim to serve, ultimately undermining their long-term success and relevance.

Commercial mixed-use renewal strategies perform moderately better in the audit, primarily because they tend to enhance accessibility and improve management capacity. However, their publicness remains a point of contention, particularly when spaces intended for public use are closely tied to consumer activities. For instance, if benches, atriums, and plazas are implicitly governed by the expectation of purchase, these spaces may appear physically open but socially restrictive. This creates a dichotomy between physical access, which allows entry, and social access, which ensures the right to remain without external pressures. The audit highlights the importance of distinguishing between these two forms of access, as true inclusivity requires that individuals feel welcome to occupy and use spaces without the obligation to engage in commercial transactions. This nuanced understanding of access is critical for creating environments that are genuinely open and equitable.

The community co-designed service hub emerges as the highest-scoring strategy in the audit. Its success is attributed to the depth of participation it fosters and the alignment it achieves between programmatic elements, spatial routes, and governance structures. This approach ensures that the needs and voices of the community are integral to the design process, resulting in spaces that are both functional and meaningful. Similarly, adaptive reuse projects that incorporate cultural memory score highly because they preserve recognizable elements of the past, thereby fostering a sense of local identity and continuity. Inclusive street-edge micro-renewal also performs well by addressing small but impactful aspects of public space, such as improving pedestrian crossings, providing shade and seating, enhancing visual permeability, and activating ground-floor spaces. These incremental improvements collectively enhance the quality of urban life,

demonstrating that even modest interventions can have a significant positive impact when thoughtfully executed [13].

4.3. Robustness and Interpretation

Because the scenario dataset is illustrative, robustness is discussed conceptually rather than statistically. This approach allows for a more flexible understanding of how different factors influence outcomes without being constrained by rigid numerical analysis. For instance, if the weight of memory continuity is increased, adaptive reuse strategies gain a stronger competitive edge, highlighting the importance of preserving historical and cultural elements in urban design. Conversely, if the weight of governance is prioritized, strategies such as the service hub and street-edge approach maintain their advantage, emphasizing the role of effective management and policy frameworks in shaping urban renewal. Additionally, removing participation from the index shifts the ranking to favor commercial renewal, underscoring the significant impact of community involvement on project evaluation. This sensitivity analysis is particularly valuable as it exposes the inherent political and value-laden nature of design evaluation processes. Weighting is not merely a technical calculation; it reflects the priorities and values embedded within a project. By making these priorities explicit, the analysis fosters a deeper understanding of the trade-offs involved in decision-making and encourages more transparent and inclusive discussions among stakeholders [14].

The index should therefore be understood as a decision-support tool rather than a definitive ranking mechanism. Its primary function is to facilitate the comparison of various design options, identify areas of weakness, and structure meaningful debates among designers, residents, and managers [15]. This tool is not intended to provide a universal or final ranking of strategies, as urban projects are inherently complex and context-dependent. In practical applications, the same framework would require supplementary methods such as field observations, interviews with stakeholders, accessibility audits, and the collection of post-occupancy data to ensure a comprehensive evaluation. These additional steps would provide a richer and more nuanced understanding of the project's impact and effectiveness. By integrating qualitative and quantitative insights, the index can serve as a dynamic platform for collaborative decision-making, enabling stakeholders to align their objectives and address potential conflicts. Ultimately, the tool's value lies in its ability to adapt to specific project contexts and foster a more inclusive and informed approach to urban design and planning.

5. Discussion

5.1. Architectural Implications

The findings emphasize that socially responsive architectural design begins at the critical interface between the building and the city. This boundary serves as a dynamic zone where urban life and architectural form intersect, offering opportunities to enhance social engagement. A renewal project can significantly improve its social performance by reimagining the ground floor as a civic interface rather than treating it as a residual or underutilized surface. This approach involves strategically locating public services in visible and accessible areas, thereby fostering inclusivity and interaction. Additionally, minimizing unnecessary level changes can enhance accessibility for diverse user groups, including individuals with mobility challenges. Designing shaded waiting areas and providing non-commercial sitting spaces further contribute to creating welcoming environments that prioritize comfort and usability. Moreover, ensuring that entrances are legible and easily identifiable from ordinary pedestrian routes strengthens the connection between the building and its urban context, encouraging seamless integration and active participation from the community.

A second implication of socially responsive design pertains to the thoughtful integration and arrangement of programs. Rather than merely adding multiple functions, effective design strategically organizes these functions to promote harmonious coexistence among diverse user groups. For instance, an elderly activity room, a small

library, a community kitchen, and a flexible classroom can mutually support one another when connected by a visible shared foyer that encourages interaction and collaboration. This spatial arrangement fosters a sense of community and reduces potential conflicts by allowing users to overlap naturally in shared spaces. Conversely, separating these functions with controlled corridors and opaque partitions can hinder interaction and diminish the social benefits of the design. By prioritizing openness and visibility, architects can create environments that facilitate meaningful connections and enhance the overall social responsiveness of the building [16].

A third implication highlights the importance of temporal adaptability in renewal design. Buildings must be designed to accommodate changes in use over time, reflecting the evolving needs of their users and communities. Incorporating movable furniture, adaptable rooms, and low-cost repair materials ensures that spaces remain flexible and functional, even as their purposes shift. Visible notice systems can further enhance adaptability by enabling users and managers to communicate changes effectively and efficiently. While these design elements may appear modest compared to iconic architectural forms, they hold significant social value by empowering users and managers with greater agency over the space. This adaptability not only extends the lifespan of the building but also ensures that it remains relevant and responsive to the dynamic nature of urban life. By prioritizing flexibility and user empowerment, renewal design can foster environments that are both resilient and socially inclusive.

5.2. Social Implications

The social implications of architectural design extend far beyond the superficial aspects of public relations or token gestures of community involvement. True participation must be integrated into the earliest stages of the design process, influencing the foundational brief, prioritizing the hierarchy of needs, and establishing meaningful criteria for success. This approach ensures that the voices of stakeholders are not only heard but actively shape the outcomes. The concept of spatial agency broadens the traditional understanding of architectural authorship, emphasizing the importance of negotiation, stewardship, and incremental transformations. These methods highlight that impactful design is not solely about grand formal productions but also about fostering environments that respond to the nuanced needs of communities. By adopting this perspective, architects can create spaces that are more inclusive, adaptable, and socially sustainable over time.

A human-settlement perspective provides a holistic framework for understanding the interconnected relationships between people, the environment, society, and culture. This perspective underscores the importance of situating building design within a broader ecological and social context. Urban renewal projects often falter when they isolate buildings from this larger network, leading to social disconnection and cultural fragmentation. To address this, socially responsive design must prioritize elements that support everyday care, foster mutual visibility, and encourage cultural continuity. Additionally, it should promote shared responsibility among stakeholders, ensuring that the built environment evolves in harmony with the community's long-term needs. By embedding these principles into the design process, architects can create spaces that not only meet immediate functional requirements but also contribute to the enduring social and cultural fabric of the community [10, 11].

6. Conclusion

This paper has explored architectural design as a dynamic social practice within the context of urban renewal. By developing a Social Responsiveness Index, leveraging verified urbanization data as contextual evidence, and employing a transparent scenario-based design audit, the study provides a structured approach to evaluating the social dimensions of urban design. The findings underscore that renewal strategies focused solely on enhancing image or commercial circulation often lack the social robustness of strategies that integrate accessibility, public edge quality, memory continuity,

participation, and governance. These elements collectively contribute to creating urban spaces that are not only functional but also socially inclusive and meaningful.

The theoretical contribution of this research lies in its integration of social-space theory, public life research, and design governance into a cohesive and practical evaluation framework. This framework bridges the gap between abstract theoretical concepts and actionable design practices. On a practical level, the study offers a straightforward formula and dataset structure that can be adapted and utilized by designers, students, and community stakeholders alike. Importantly, the framework is designed to be modest in scope, acknowledging its role as a tool for visibility rather than a definitive solution to the complex politics of urban renewal. By making these politics more transparent in design terms, the framework empowers stakeholders to engage with urban renewal processes more critically and effectively.

While the study presents a valuable framework, it is not without limitations. The scenario dataset employed is illustrative and would benefit from being replaced with field evidence in applied projects to enhance its practical relevance. Future research could expand on this framework by incorporating methodologies such as pedestrian counts, accessibility mapping, interviews, behavioral observations, and post-occupancy evaluations. Additionally, a more advanced model could explore the implications of applying different weighting systems to reflect the diverse priorities of residents, planners, and designers. Despite these limitations, the central argument remains compelling: architecture achieves social significance not merely by occupying urban space but by fostering environments where diverse individuals can enter, linger, remember, negotiate, and care for shared places. This perspective emphasizes the transformative potential of design in shaping socially vibrant and inclusive urban landscapes.

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