

Córdoba: from listening to Participative Government

The city of Córdoba has become a **beacon of citizen participation** in Argentina and the region. We are seeking to **change the paradigm** in the way we manage. The notion of citizen participation has been tied to the idea of “listening”. We want to move **from listening to the participatory government**. Our participatory management model seeks to achieve the highest levels of **citizen involvement**. To achieve this, we have the **institutes of citizen participation** (Neighborhood Participatory Budget, Youth Participatory Budget, Neighborhood Participation Boards) and a **process of decentralization** (first, with the Community Participation Centers and now with the new Operational Centers). These are the bases that allow the Municipality to work together with **institutions and neighbors** to define the future of the city, having the tools and personnel close to each neighborhood problem. We seek to go further, including all neighborhood actors under a notion of **Community**, that is why we value and enhance the work of neighborhood centers. Through the Neighborhood **Self-Management Regime**, we are moving towards a model whereby neighbors can also participate not only in the deliberation but also in the **management and execution of solutions and works**.

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In the previous administration we were able, even during the pandemic and despite the recession, to develop works that transformed the city. In these complex times we want to **invite citizens to be part of the administration of resources and decisions**. We do not want to impose revealed truths. We propose an **inclusive city model** in which every neighbor has a **voice and a vote**; and also the possibility of getting involved. We invite you to learn about our policies on citizen participation.



Community Participation Centers (CPC)

The CPCs were created in the 90s during the administration of Mayor Rubén Américo Martí. They are buildings where neighbors can carry out **municipal and provincial procedures** as well as receive training, **cultural workshops and practice sports activities**. In a city of 576 km² of urbanized area, they were the key to the administrative decentralization of the Municipality. During the previous administration of Mayor Martín Llaryora, three new CPCs were inaugurated and during the current administration of Daniel Passerini, two more will be inaugurated, bringing the total number of CPCs in the city to **18**. In addition, CPCs are now open in the afternoons and on Saturday mornings, on a rotating basis.



Operational Centers (COP)

In such a large city, we could not continue to depend on the central areas to be able to cover the immense amount of arrangements and services that the city requires. Martín Llaryora inaugurated **13 Operative Centers** during his administration, to provide each CPC with **solutions for the neighborhoods**. Thanks to this, the CPCs ceased to be just a window for claims and procedures to become **the place where solutions arise**. This decision is no coincidence: the operational centers were integrated to each CPC so that they are also part of the citizen participation system. We want the neighbors to know that they can count on them for the problems of each district. During this administration we will be increasing the number of tasks performed by the Operational Center, providing them with more tools, supplies and machinery, and **preparing them for action** in the event of storms, floods and tornadoes.



Participatory Neighborhood Budget (PPB)

The instances are opened every year, so that neighbors can **meet, raise their concerns and choose the implementation of certain neighborhood public works**. During 2024, we carried out the Neighborhood Participatory Budget workshops in **50 neighborhoods of the city**.

With the PPB, during the previous administration, **304 arrangements chosen by the neighbors** were carried out, such as renovation of squares and promenades, street paving, lighting and placement of speed bumps, among others.



Youth Participatory Budget (PPJ)

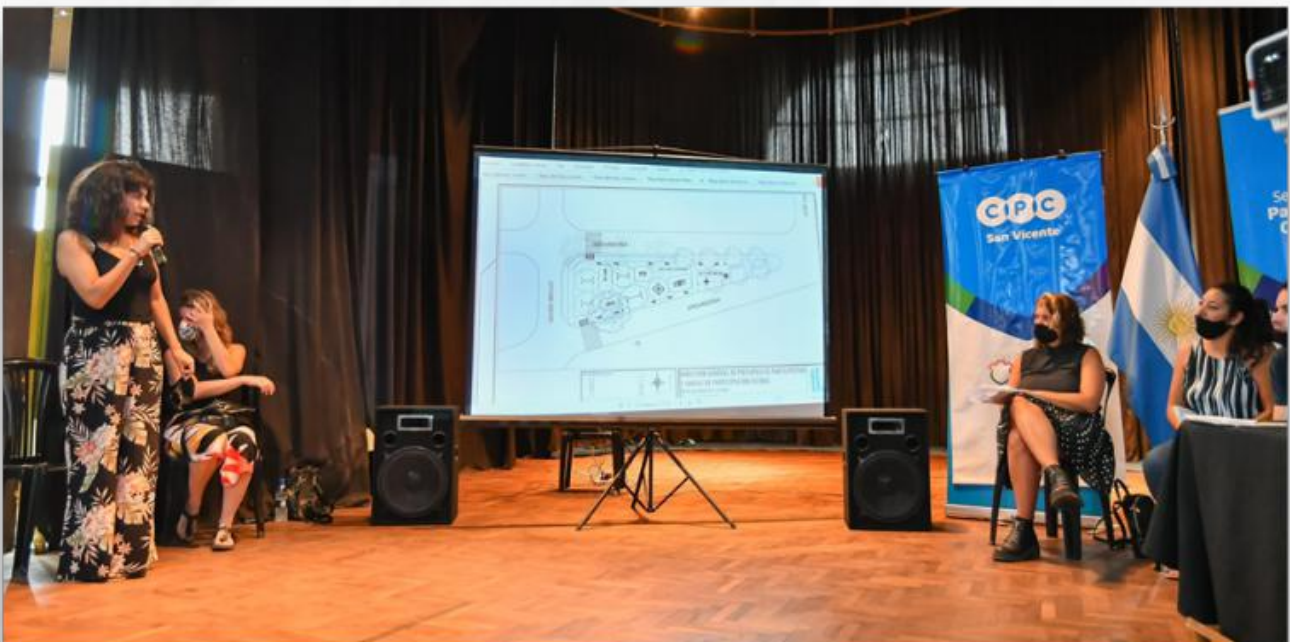
We have designed a **deliberative and permanent process** for the youth of the city that seeks to **include them in the decision making process**. We understand that the Organized Community is strengthened when each sector of society has the **opportunity to express their needs and aspirations**, allowing young people to be part of the **construction and execution of public policies**.

Projects are submitted by each CPC jurisdiction and young people must have the endorsement of an institution in their district. After PPJ 2024 votation, 30 projects are currently being executed.



Neighborhood Participation Boards (JPV)

The neighborhood institutions have the possibility of **collaborating** with the municipality in district planning and in the demarcation of priorities, establishing an annual “**District Improvement Plan**” which they submit to the Municipality.



The Neighborhood Participation Boards are integrated into the orbit of each of the CPCs and are their deliberative body.

Neighborhood Development Self-management Regime

With multiple challenges and dissimilar district realities, the Municipality has decided not only to submit different issues to the consultation of the neighbors, but to go further and **integrate them to the execution of the works and services** that they themselves define as necessary for **local development**.



In 2020, Ordinance 13,006 was passed, which **modified the Procurement and Contracting Regime**, enabling the municipality to delegate the execution of public works to neighborhood centers. Work execution times are speeded up, costs are reduced and monitoring and control become more efficient. **The citizens deliberate, decide, execute and control the jobs getting done.**

Congresses and Seminars

We want to be an **example for the region**, to establish links with successful cities in the field and, ultimately, to be the city where the **future of citizen participation** is discussed. In July 2022, April 2023 and August 2024, our city hosted dozens of mayors from Argentina and the world for the **Citizen Participation and Decentralization Congress**, an event in which cities could share their **management experiences and ideas** that were soon able to turn into **effective reality**.

On the other hand, in October 2024 the city of Córdoba organized the **National Youth Congress**.



Córdoba, Venue for the Annual Conference IODP 2025

In October 2024, the city of Córdoba assumed the presidency of the **International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IODP)**, which implies that we have been chosen to host the 24th Conference of the Observatory to be held in May 2025.

The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IODP) is an **international network of cities**, a worldwide reference in the field of **participatory democracy**. The Annual Conference is a meeting point for experts in the field of participation and also an opportunity for **cooperation between cities and organizations interested in democratic innovations**.



We look forward to meeting you!