

NEWSPAPER HERAKLION

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Smart, Resilient and Livable Heraklion

Heraklion is the ideal city you choose to live



It was many years ago when the Municipality of Heraklion, after a long consultation with the citizens, defined its vision, thematic strategies and specific actions in order for this Municipality to become a smart, resilient and livable Municipality with a strong tourist and cultural identity.

Today, citizens of Heraklion enjoy in their daily lives the results and the impact of the sustainable urban mobility,

integrated urban intervention and sustainable urban development plans. They also enjoy the positive impact of the Heraklion - Smart City strategy, the Sustainability strategy, the Lifelong Learning project "Heraklion - a learning city", the tourism business plan and the waste management plan. The Integrated Action Plan created within the Global Goals for Cities (GG4C) project of the European

Cooperation Program URBACT III, in the year 2022, in which the Municipality of Heraklion participated as one of the 19 partners, gave a significant impetus to the strategic planning of the Municipality of Heraklion. The program aimed to integrate the 17 UN objectives at the local level.



We move forward together

The Municipality of Heraklion often uses the slogans "No citizen alone" and "No citizen should be left behind". Throughout time, the Municipality of Heraklion stood next to the citizen in need. Now in the wider area of the Municipality of Heraklion there are homeless day care centers while the implementation of the homeless reintegration program continues, through which the person is given the opportunity to be accommodated in a house for 1 year where during it, through the respective actions, is reintegrated labor market and can now live independently.

The citizen of the city now enjoys a more pleasant daily life and an improved standard of living. It basically uses the Public Transport and the electric minibuses of the Municipality which transport the citizens free of charge. The increase in the use of Public Transport, normalized the



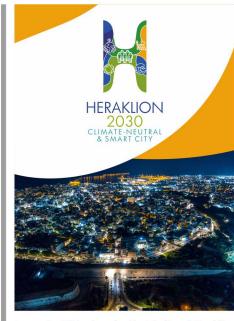
traffic problem of the city and contributed to the reduction by 40% of CO2 emissions from the city center. Bicycle use on the roads has increased, the initial network of bicycle lanes is growing and there are charging stations for bicycles and electric passenger cars.





we said a few years ago and the truth is that rightly an overwhelming percentage of citizens were skeptical about the term and the meaning of this strategy. Nowadays no one disputes the digital transformation that has taken place in the Municipality of Heraklion, where the citizen for most of his transactions with the Municipality is served electronically via Computer or mobile phone. The percentage of citizens aged 60 and over who use these services is also remarkable, after training that they attended in the special training programs that were implemented in the "Demoscope" of the Municipality of Heraklian

The sidewalks in the city center allow people of all ages to enjoy their walks and shopping without the hustle and bustle of busy streets. "Eleftheria" Square has now been transformed, where more than 50% of it has greenery, benches and elegant spots that are increasingly attracting interest. A few meters from "Eleftheria" Square, "Georgiadis" Park is an attraction both on weekdays and weekends, while "Erythrea" Park is a iewel in South Heraklion.



It was in 2021 when the Municipality of Heraklion managed to join the European Mission "100 climate neutral cities by 2030" and through which a strong impetus was given to projects related to the ways of production and saving of energy through renewable sources and advanced technologies, smart networks, flexible energy management systems, as well as changes in citizen behavior (eg cycling, etc.). The Municipality of Heraklion invested in environmentally friendly technologies, actively supported innovation in all its productive sectors and mainly developed cleaner, cheaper and more environmentally friendly technologies for public and private transport and transportation.



Since 2011, when they were integrated in the Municipality of Heraklion, the former municipalities of Temenos, Paliani, Gorgolaini and Nea Alikarnassos have been a bet for their effective integration.

Particularly important for rural areas was the solution of chronic problems such as irrigation and rural road construction. Both of these issues were resolved within the 2020s while at the same time the agricultural sector of these areas and the home-based industry were further developed.



Strong cultural and touristic identity

Heraklion has become a world destination. The visitor of the city is the person who participates in a conference but also finds some time to enjoy the local cuisine, is the visitor who came to the city to participate in a big sports event but managed to walk in the footsteps of the Minoans and visit Knossos , is the visitor who want to do vacation in western Crete but chose to stay in Heraklion for 2 nights before continuing his/her vacation in other parts of the island.

