

Hitorerut's Vision for Jerusalem

Hitorerut will lead Jerusalem towards securing its Zionist, productive, and tolerant future, while lending a voice for residents from all sectors, through a combination of innovative, intensive, and determined social and political action.

The Hitorerut platform is the foundation for realizing this vision, which reflecting the core values of the movement and its activists. Therefore, we have written a comprehensive platform that addresses a wide range of content and policy areas surrounding our vision for the city of Jerusalem, which we wish to create and build.

In the collaborative process of writing the platform, we have cooperated with many Hitorerut activists and dozens of Jerusalem experts, who are professionals in fields relating to the various topics covered in the platform. We are determined to learn from the world and from the state state-of-the-art expertise in each respective field.

This platform will be the basis for Hitorerut's work plan for the next five years, from which the actions of the party members in the city council, as well as the social actions of Hitorerut, will be prioritized and refined.



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בראשות אדיר שורץ

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Hitorerut's Jerusalem Safety and Security Plan

The reality that was revealed to us on October 7 reflects a simple truth: before all else, the citizens of Israel - and the residents of Jerusalem - deserve to live in security. To know that their security is entrusted to those who can be relied upon. To trust that the authorities will provide the necessary response in an emergency. To sleep with the understanding that there is someone who will care for their lives. And while there are places in Jerusalem that are an example and a model for coexistence, we must also face the reality: there are threats to the security of the city's residents. These include manmade threats such as violent crime, terrorist attacks, missiles and rockets; but also, possible natural disasters such as earthquakes, pandemics and extreme weather. These issues are indeed under the care of the national systems and authorities, but the local authority has a critical role in completing the shield of the city's security. Therefore, Hitorerut will work to improve the urban security system with the understanding that security and safety are above all. "May there be peace in your borders, tranquillity in your palaces - שלום בחילך, שלוה בארמנותייך - (Tehilim).

24/7 Emergency Center

The municipality will strengthen and staff an urban emergency center, where continuous monitoring of the city's systems and indications of various threats will take place. This will be operated in collaboration with the emergency centers of the police, Israel's security organizations and the national emergency authorities (National Emergency Authority and the Home Front Command). The center will be prepared to manage emergency events and the first response to them and activate urban emergency volunteer teams and readiness squads (see below). The center will have the best technologies to monitor the threats and to manage the response.

Emergency Plans Practiced in Non-Emergency Times

The next disaster will come, that's a fact. And as befits an emergency event, it will come unexpectedly, but that does not mean that the responses cannot be prepared in advance. We will ensure that the municipality holds detailed and updated plans for various emergency scenarios, including earthquakes, intense wars, pandemics, extreme weather, significant disruptions in the supply chain and additional threats to the security of the city's residents. These plans will include preparing the conduct of the municipality, the role of the community administrations and the neighborhood emergency preparedness; the continuity of the functioning of the education, health and sanitation systems during the crisis; assisting special populations, including senior citizens, people with special needs, victims of anxiety and those struggling with mental health; and distribution of critical supplies and essential products. This preparedness will be coordinated and managed in collaboration with National Emergency Authority and Home Front Command on the one hand and the community administrations on the other. As part of the municipality's readiness for an emergency situation, we will ensure that the municipal employees and the volunteer system of the community administrations are familiar with these plans and perform multiple exercises in routine times in preparation for the moment of truth.

Caring for Reservists (Miluimnikim)

The IDF reserve units are full of Jerusalemites, who leave everything in time of war to contribute to the security of the state. Jerusalem must do everything in its power to ease that experience for them and their families. We will map the Jerusalem reservists and follow their recruitment and release dates in a continuous

manner with the IDF, so that we can maintain timely contacts with their families during their service and with reservists upon their release. This will be actively initiated by the municipality for the purpose of making the various services that the municipality offers more accessible. As part of this, the municipality's representatives will actively contact and seek needs of reservists and their families in a timely manner, refer them to the functions that can handle needs in the most effective way, assist the families in realizing their rights and use the municipality's leverage to come to their aid in times of crisis.

In addition, we will work with the Ministry of Interior to increase the small discount that reservists receive in Arnona (municipal tax) today - as a sign of recognition and gratitude for their service.

Proper Shelters for Jerusalemites

Shelters are the last layer of defence for the residents against rocket and missile threats, which have unfortunately become a common threat in recent years. We will ensure that every resident knows exactly where their protected space is in case of missile and rocket attacks by means of timely communication initiated by the municipality and an invitation to "open shelter" days. We will organize timely inspections by the city's inspectors to ensure that the shelters are clean, ventilated, easily accessible and suitable for prolonged stay. We will also build additional shelters where there are gaps.

Readiness Squads (Kitot Konehut) - the First Line of Défense

Readiness squads are the first line of defence for the neighborhoods against terrorist attacks. Therefore, we will empower the readiness squad's system that began to be formed during the "Iron Swords" war. We will ensure that the members of the readiness squads have a suitable background, have proper equipment, undergo training on a regular basis and practice drills in times of terrorist attacks; any possession of weapons must be approved in a responsible manner. We will ensure that all residents know how to contact the members of the readiness squads and call them when needed. In particular, we will ensure that there is a significant presence of readiness classes in the neighborhoods between West Jerusalem and East Jerusalem.

Neighborhood Watch - Close to Home

In order to provide an additional layer of security in the neighborhoods, to give early warning of emergency events and to prevent youth crime, we will work together with the community managers and community security coordinators (רב"קים) to create community patrols, based on volunteers (not armed - unlike the readiness squads) who will patrol the neighborhoods at night, alert authorities of possible problems, prevent youth crime and give the residents a sense of security. We will ensure that standard procedures are created for carrying out these volunteer patrols and that the volunteers receive the appropriate equipment that will be maintained in each neighborhood. We will ensure that the volunteers undergo proper training and receive recognition from the authorities. Similarly, when an earthquake hits Jerusalem sooner or later, we will establish, together with the community administrations, volunteer teams that will also be prepared for earthquakes and natural disasters - under the reasonable assumption that the national authorities will not be able to provide a response for 72 hours after the outbreak of the emergency event.

Security and Safety in East Jerusalem

Unfortunately, the recent years have seen deadly attacks that came out of the east of the city. The Jerusalem neighborhoods beyond the security fence, in particular, are enclaves where the conditions for cultivating

extremism and violence exist. In collaboration with the national security organizations and experts on the subject, we will ensure that the security conditions are maintained to ensure that no enclaves of extremism develop in any corner of Jerusalem. In this context, the chapter of the platform that deals with East Jerusalem details the path to economic growth of the east of the city, another aspect of cultivating moderation and fighting violence and extremism. There will be no terror enclaves in Jerusalem!

In addition, the urban neglect in these neighborhoods and the lack of supervision over the quality of construction raises the potential for multi-casualty events in the event of an earthquake or natural disaster. We will map the gaps in East Jerusalem, as in all parts of the city, in order to build a path to strengthen the construction in East Jerusalem and reduce the potential harm to life in advance.

Security and Safety of Educational Institutions

When parents send their children to education establishments, they need to know that they will receive them back safely. We will map the security needs of the educational institutions throughout Jerusalem and ensure that the level of security in the educational institutions is appropriate. In addition, we will conduct timely inspections to ensure that the educational buildings are free of safety hazards.

Safe Urban Renewal

We will ensure that as part of the urban renewal projects, the construction is done in a safe manner to protect construction workers and pedestrians, and that the buildings meet strict standards for a scenario of a strong earthquake. We will map areas where the buildings do not meet such standards and formulate a response together with the state authorities to reduce the gaps as quickly as possible.

Jerusalem That Is Protected in Cyberspace

We will ensure that the municipality's systems and the data on the municipality's residents are protected from cyber threats in accordance with the recommendations of the National Cyber Directorate. We will ensure that the municipality's computerized systems meet proper standards for protection in cyberspace, that the municipality's employees are aware of the practices that preserve the city's information, that there is a plan for the first response to cyber events that harm the city's infrastructure and the municipality's systems, and that the residents of Jerusalem are aware of the common risks on the internet.

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The City's Appearance

- Urban Planning and Housing: A City Built for Its Residents
- Transportation: Mobility That Puts People at the Center
- Quality of Services for Residents: A Jerusalem That Sees Its Residents
- Environmental and Climate Protection: A Green and Sustainable Jerusalem
- East Jerusalem: A City That Serves All Its Residents Equally



Urban Planning and Housing: A City Built for Its Residents

Urban planning in Jerusalem today determines how it will look like tomorrow. If Jerusalem is planned and built correctly, future generations will enjoy the fruits; however, if Jerusalem is planned negligently, its future residents will suffer. In HitOrerut's Jerusalem, council members will promote urban planning that prioritizes the public good and the public's needs. "לשנה הבאה בירושלים הבנויה - הבנויה" (from the Haggadah).

Promoting holistic planning for construction in Jerusalem – rather than eclectic building

Currently, construction in Jerusalem is carried out in a random and scattered manner, without holistic planning and without genuine consideration of the future needs of its residents. Urban renewal in the city should be carried out with consideration of each neighbourhood's characteristics, the future needs of its residents, the necessary accompanying infrastructures, and the desired mix of housing: apartments for young people, long-term rental apartments, and large apartments. A holistic plan will be designed to be the thread connecting the projects, from which the principles and targets of this chapter will be derived: urban renewal, construction designed for people, mixed-use development, and the construction of appropriate infrastructures.

Responsible urban densification – not construction on open and green spaces

There is a clear need for construction in Jerusalem. The Jerusalem population is growing rapidly, and there is a substantial need to build thousands of new housing units each year to accommodate the next generation and to reduce real estate prices. However, building on open spaces will rob the next generation of the few remaining green spaces. Therefore, we will promote the densification of Jerusalem and urban renewal, while minimizing construction in open spaces.

Construction that is adapted to humans – not towers that will harm Jerusalem of 2040

The municipality is currently promoting urban renewal and construction of approximately 16,000 housing units, many of which are planned in towers of 20, 30, and 40 stories. These towers have significant disadvantages: they require expensive maintenance that is not necessarily within the residents' reach, creating low-quality living conditions. Towers also harm the community feel of neighbourhoods and lead to less urban interaction. Instead, we will promote sensible construction, learning from cities that have become examples of good urbanism, where the city was built in dense construction, but at lower heights; towers will be a pointed and rare solution, not the norm. In addition, construction will take into account the appropriate social considerations, including public participation in planning, proper procedures vis-à-vis residents, agreements between neighbors, and maintenance funds.

Promoting mixed-use throughout the city instead of "bedroom communities"

The current construction in the city is of areas dedicated solely to residential purposes. However, worldwide experience teaches that the best cities feature mixed uses: commerce, employment, education, health services, and leisure areas – all located within the city streets and a short distance from the residents living in them. Mixed-use reduces traffic congestion and eliminates the need for private car travel for every small need, leads to the prosperity of both small and large businesses, fosters a sense of community, and

promotes encounters between people, as a city is meant for human beings. Such construction will also address the tremendous shortage of office real estate that harms the economy.

Building infrastructure that matches the pace of densification – instead of future traffic jams

Construction requires the development of infrastructures such as transportation, education, public institutions, and open spaces. However, today the city lacks infrastructure development that matches the scope of construction; for example, in Kiryat Menachem, there is no transportation solution for urban renewal complexes, which will lead to huge traffic jams in the future; in Kiryat Hayovel, there will not be a sufficient supply of public services and open spaces. We will ensure that alongside every planned construction, the required infrastructures are planned, including transportation, educational institutions, and public buildings such as sports fields, playgrounds, and cultural and religious institutions.

Managing construction in a way that minimizes impact on residents' experience

Current construction projects cause immense disruption to residents' lives. We will minimize the impact on residents' life and ensure their quality of life is maintained, learning from the best practices in the field. We will increase transparency regarding the scope of projects and expected disruptions, give residents the ability to voice their opinions about construction, and ensure that there is a contact point for inquiries in every project.

Transportation: Mobility That Puts People at the Center

The effectiveness of the urban transportation system is critical to the daily experience of Jerusalem's residents and visitors. While the municipality tries to brand Jerusalem as "the first city to escape traffic jams," Jerusalemites currently suffer from prolonged congestion, an ineffective public transportation system, hostile walking environments, and disconnection between neighbourhoods. In Hitorerut's Jerusalem, the goal of transportation systems will be the comfortable and efficient movement of people, not vehicles. Therefore, promoting walkability and a quality mass transit system should be the central focuses of the municipality's transportation activities, increasing the use of quality public transport. "All roads, paths, highways, signs lead to Jerusalem - לירושלים מובילים השלטים, הכבישים, הדרכים, השבילים, הכבישים." (Avraham Fried).

Making Jerusalem a City That is Pleasurable to Walk In

We will transform Jerusalem into a city that is enjoyable, pleasant, and convenient to walk in – for work, family, leisure, errands, and any other need. Currently, Jerusalem has a few central locations with satisfactory walkability (e.g., Jaffa Street) and a few pleasant streets to walk through (e.g., Ben Yehuda pedestrian area), while the rest of the city is not pedestrian-friendly and is characterized by narrow sidewalks that are poorly maintained, without shade, and with only partial accessibility. We will significantly widen the sidewalks and fully make them accessible for strollers and wheelchairs; plant trees that provide maximum shading every 5 meters (see more on this in the full platform chapter on environmental and climate protection) and also provide artificial shading in certain places as an interim solution; install benches for rest throughout the city; install handrails on steep ascents and descents; add numerous pedestrian crossings; gradually and intelligently designate new pedestrian streets in places where pedestrian traffic exceeds its capacity, such as Agrippas Street; enforce against parking on sidewalks; install adequate street lighting; improve pedestrian crossing times at traffic lights; selectively widen traffic islands for more comfortable waiting at crossings; and create convenient walking paths between neighbourhoods.

Turning Jerusalem into a Bicycle-Friendly City and Supporting Micro-Mobility Solutions

We will work to develop the currently limited network of bicycle lanes throughout the city and create full connectivity between the lanes and at intersections to enable comfortable cycling and micro-mobility solutions such as scooters. We will physically separate the lanes from the roads and sidewalks as much as possible to create a sense of safety and create bicycle lanes in locations where it is topographically more convenient to ride, such as parallel to the light rail. The bicycle lanes themselves will be optimally routed: continuous lanes, built from non-slippery paving (i.e., not Jerusalem stone) and clearly distinguished from the road. In addition, we will build infrastructures supporting the bicycle lane network: installing bicycle parking facilities near public centers including schools, malls, government sites, museums, etc.; expanding the bicycle rental service ("Yerofan") to be more widespread; building infrastructure for the comfort of riders, such as water fountains and restrooms; and planting shade trees along the routes.

Strengthening the Light Rail Network, Accelerating Completion, and Coordinating Construction with Urban Planning

As a primary means of strengthening public transport in Jerusalem, we will ensure that the light rail network (J-Net) is built as quickly as possible and optimally connects the ends of the city, especially in neighborhoods

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undergoing urban renewal that will not be accessible to the light rail network under the current plan. We will increase the frequency and operating hours of the light rail to make it a more convenient and accessible mobility solution and ensure it has priority at intersections. Finally, we will increase connectivity to the network through feeder buses as well as bicycle and walking paths.

Significantly Strengthening the City's Bus Network

We will use all levers to strengthen Jerusalem's bus network and remove barriers that prevent its development: increasing the frequency and operating hours of high-demand lines and feeder lines to the light rail; designating bus-only lanes; designing and implementing a plan to address the shortage of bus parking, including underground parking; building comfortable refreshment rooms for the welfare of bus drivers; promoting shaded and rain-protected bus stations; and working to replace buses with electric ones as much as possible.

Enhancing Accessibility in Public Transportation to and from Jerusalem

We will work to strengthen the connectivity and accessibility of the city to other population and employment centers across Israel. As part of this effort, we will promote and accelerate the establishment of heavy rail stations in the city center, the First Station area, and the Talpiot area (where there is currently no plan for a heavy rail station), so that residential and employment areas in Jerusalem will be easily accessible to centers outside the city. We will ensure that these trains depart and arrive in Jerusalem with a higher frequency than today and throughout all hours of the day. In addition, we will ensure that the intercity bus network matches the residents' needs. It is especially important to promote Jerusalem's transportation connections to other cities and settlements in the metropolitan area. Therefore, we will build a metro system to the metropolitan settlements within 20 years and immediately improve the bus system to them.

Improving the Public Transport Passenger Experience and Encouraging its Use

We will promote a better public transportation experience in Jerusalem. As part of this goal, we will work on promoting an urban center for the control and supervision of urban transportation quality, which will provide a quick and quality response to public complaints and inquiries about transportation, within the framework of the 106 hotline and using QR codes placed at stations; for example, these could address bus delays. As part of this, specific roles will be defined within the municipality that will be responsible for public relations and representing local needs vis-à-vis the Ministry of Transportation. Also, we will enhance the cleanliness of buses and stations and launch a public awareness campaign to maintain their cleanliness. In addition, we will encourage the use of public transportation among city and municipal corporation employees by comparing the economic incentives of using public transportation to those received by employees who use private vehicles. As a complementary measure to public transport, we will work to strengthen the presence of short-term vehicle rental solutions throughout the city, to eliminate in many cases the need for private vehicle ownership.

Weekend Cooperative Transportation

We will institutionalize the "Hitorerut" Shabbat minibus pilot, providing cooperative transportation on weekends, in a format that balances the needs of those who wish to travel with those who do not, based on the principles of the Gabison-Medan Covenant. This will be done using non-noisy minibuses that do not pass

through ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods and by setting flexible routes based on advance booking, rather than fixed lines. We will keep car and bicycle rental projects open during the weekend and explore the possibility of operating the light rail on weekends according to a "horizontal Shabbat elevator" model in cooperation and transparency with the religious and ultra-Orthodox sectors in the city.

Zero Road Accident Victims in Jerusalem

Regrettably, since 2017, there have been over 5,000 road accidents in Jerusalem, in which over 8,000 people were injured and more than 80 people were killed, according to the National Road Safety Authority. Despite this, Jerusalem does not have a comprehensive plan to prevent road accidents. In the spirit of "Vision Zero," we will build a strategic plan to make the city safer, including physical traffic moderating measures, adding numerous and safe pedestrian crossings, and targeted action in areas with a high frequency of road accidents.

Optimal Maintenance of Transportation Infrastructures and Addressing Road Hazards

Hazards and potholes on the city's roads pose a danger to human life, impair vehicle traffic, and also lead to a slowdown in public transport movement. To prevent this, we will allocate an annual budget for systematic treatment of road maintenance problems, ensure that the city improvement department (Shipui Pnei Ha'ir) quickly identifies new hazards, and set a goal to address all hazards within 48 hours.

Jerusalem as a Metropolitan Transportation Authority

We will work with government bodies and other authorities in the metropolitan area to establish a metropolitan transportation authority for Jerusalem, which will have the authority to plan and operate public transportation in the metropolitan area, currently held solely by the Ministry of Transportation. The decentralization of authority will allow Jerusalem to further promote public transportation in the city, with a holistic view of the unique needs of the metropolitan and city residents. The Jerusalem authority to be established will be based on the existing institutions in the city today, including the Transportation Master Plan Team (Tzevet Tochnit Av Letachbura).

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Quality of Service for Residents: A Jerusalem That Sees Its Residents

It's essential to make the residents of Jerusalem feel seen and have their needs acknowledged. The city belongs not to the municipality but to its residents. Despite some improvements in cleanliness in recent years, there is still a significant way to go in other areas of service to residents. HitOrerut's Jerusalem will be a city that is easy to live in - a city that truly serves its residents: "if I do not bring up Jerusalem to the beginning of my joy – אם לא אעלה את ירושלים על ראש שמחתי – (Tehilim).

Genuine Attention to Residents

The municipality operates the 106 hotline, intended to be the go-to phone address for city residents' inquiries. However, the response from the 106 line is often slow and unsatisfactory, leading to considerable frustration among residents. We will improve the municipality's responsiveness to residents by ensuring compliance with a "Service Level Agreement" (SLA) that the municipality publicly commits to towards the residents. Adhering to such an agreement should include quick processing times, full transparency regarding the treatment stages of each inquiry, and a satisfactory level of service. The extent of compliance with this commitment will be measured and published regularly.

Digital Jerusalem

Jerusalem lags behind other cities in Israel in terms of digital accessibility to updates, events, and services. Although the municipality operates a website, an app, and social media pages, much more is possible in 2023. We will fully digitalize the service to residents, creating an app for all interactions with the municipality: updates at the neighborhood level for each user, event recommendations based on user preferences, available information on municipal services, consolidation of required payments (e.g., parking fines), updates on construction processes and various disruptions in relevant neighborhoods, easy and accessible public participation, and alerts or reminders according to residents' preferences. Additionally, we will leverage the widespread use of the WhatsApp application to create a municipal WhatsApp center and neighborhood groups for distributing relevant updates (not spam or election propaganda) from the municipality.

A Dedicated Fund for Resident Initiatives

We will create a dedicated fund for budget initiatives and proposals from residents meant to improve the city's appearance and service. For example, the fund will finance the development of community gardens, street furniture in relevant places, projects to beautify the city, shade, water fountains, public restrooms, and other facilities to enhance the urban experience. The municipality will make information about the dedicated fund accessible and launch an efficient process for the justified receipt of budget from it.

Bringing Improvement in Cleanliness and Sanitation to All Parts of the City

While some neighborhoods in Jerusalem have seen an improvement in cleanliness, many have not seen a significant improvement, especially those not near the city center. In addition, alongside neighborhoods that enjoy modern cleaning infrastructures, there are still neighborhoods with the green "frog" bins. We will ensure that the municipality brings improvement in cleanliness and sanitation to all Jerusalemites, including garbage removal, street cleaning, upgrading the appearance of squares, and enforcing against littering. At the same time, we will ensure a sufficient distribution of underground bins throughout the city, conduct campaigns to explain the importance of maintaining cleanliness, and ensure that the municipality responds quickly to inquiries about the cleanliness of neighborhoods and parks. The level of cleanliness in each neighborhood will be measured and published regularly.

Enforcement Against Noise Nuisances

We will bring clear enforcement of laws and regulations against noise nuisances that currently disturb residents, in collaboration with the police and alongside a public campaign on the issue. This way, we will ensure that construction, loud music (not during permitted hours and defined areas), and other noise disturbances do not disrupt the lives of residents. The level of complaints about noise nuisances in each neighborhood will also be measured and published regularly.



Salute to the
victorious
generation!

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Environmental and Climate Protection:

A Green and Sustainable Jerusalem

"Jerusalem, mountains surround her – ירושלים, הרים סביב לה – (Tehilim) - the city, its natural springs, and the surrounding mountains are inseparable, yet the green spaces around the city are threatened by construction plans that have better alternatives, and within the city, there is a struggle for every urban natural site that allows residents to access open spaces. In Hitorerut's Jerusalem, protecting the environment is of utmost importance. We cannot give up - for the sake of future generations.

Declaring a National Park to Protect the Mountains of Jerusalem

As representatives in local and district planning and building committees, we will fight against construction plans threatening the green spaces surrounding Jerusalem. In this context, we will focus on protecting the area around Hadassah Ein Karem and changing its land designation to a forest, as well as fighting against the Western Ring Road and the separated interchange plans. Additionally, out of responsibility for future generations and the city's natural assets, we will work towards declaring a broad national park from Har HaMenuchot to Mitzpe Neftoach, ensuring long-term protection of the area. We will not allow plans to proceed through expedited committee processes and will fight to ensure the public has the right to oppose and influence them.

Green Right Under Our Homes

In the last decade, about 30% of the city's green spaces have been destroyed. We will amend the local master plan for urban nature so that it will have official protective status. We will nurture existing natural sites and establish new urban nature sites, such as the "Southern Deer Valley," surrounding Mount Zion, which is home to many deer. We will promote the approval of comprehensive master plans for each neighborhood that will preserve their open spaces in the long term, giving priority to neighborhoods adjacent to mountains such as Ein Kerem, Ramot, Har Homa, Givat Masua, Kiryat Hayovel, Ir Ganim-Kiryat Menachem, and Gilo.

Air as Clear as Wine - A Tree Every 5 Meters

Trees keep the air clean, provide shade in the streets, and ensure lower temperatures. We will fight against the cutting down of mature trees by setting minimum cutting goals and restrictions for the forestry officer. We will implement a municipal policy whereby diverse local tree species will be planted every 5 meters in new sidewalks, in collaboration with relevant municipal departments. Additionally, we will gradually plant in existing sidewalks based on mapping neighborhoods currently with the least shade and a high number of pedestrians. Furthermore, we will plant local, water-efficient shrubs and flowers that do not require frequent replacement.

Bringing Energy and Life to the City

We will increase the city's energy independence through a municipal by-law that will mandate the installation of solar panels on every public building roof or making the roof a green roof open to the public; we will ban the construction of new wood-burning fireplaces and the use of existing ones within 3 years, as they emit carcinogens; and we will work with the government to allow for enhanced enforcement. We will legally enforce the municipal target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, not just write climate change preparedness plans that are never implemented on the ground. We will ensure the implementation of these plans with monthly monitoring by public representatives dealing with environmental issues along with the relevant professionals in the municipality. We will also prepare for the intensification and frequency of extreme climate events such as heatwaves, fires, floods, and snowstorms, to keep the city's vital infrastructures active and support vulnerable populations. Additionally, we will protect the city's animals and enforce animal welfare laws within it, and manage quality feeding, neutering, and spaying of dogs and cats in the city.

Jerusalem, the Eternal City, is Not Disposable

Every day, 250-300 tons of trash are buried in Jerusalem, which the Jerusalem sorting plant cannot accommodate, polluting the soil. We will fight this and ban the use of disposable items in the municipality, including in kindergartens and schools for the health of the children, and introduce dishwashers to institutions that need them. We will promote the placement of industrial composters in hospitals, malls, and industrial areas to prevent organic waste and increase the budget for the "Green Bin" program for neighborhood composters. We will make the recycling facilities map accessible and expand educational programs on the importance of waste reduction. Additionally, we will work to reduce the use of synthetic turfs that pose a health hazard pollutant.

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East Jerusalem: A City That Serves All Its Residents Equally

In HitOrerut's Jerusalem, the Jerusalem municipality, as the municipal sovereign, has the responsibility to serve all its residents equally, regardless of their neighborhood of residence, language, national identity, or civil status. The population of East Jerusalem, which constitutes about 40% of the city's total population, suffers from low living conditions and a huge gap in infrastructure levels. This situation is a barrier to the prosperity of the entire city, as a significant portion of the residents of the eastern part of the city are not part of the urban economy. Closing these gaps is important for the prosperity of the residents of East Jerusalem and is also key to the prosperity of all residents of Jerusalem: "Jerusalem that is built as a city that is compact together – ירושלים הבנויה כעיר שחבורה לה יחדיו –" (Tehilim).

Seeing the Residents of East Jerusalem as an Integral Part of All City Residents

We will ensure that the municipality views East Jerusalem as an essential part of the overall city development planning processes. We will publish a comprehensive vision for the integration of the city; ensure that the municipality manages the resources and support for the development of East Jerusalem in a professional manner; lead the establishment of a separate planning, licensing, and supervision unit to efficiently address the current planning challenges in the eastern parts of the city. All of this will be done while involving the East Jerusalem public and operating with full transparency. In addition, we will promote a creative solution for the registration of lands in East Jerusalem involving local government bodies, the national government, and legal experts.

Closing the Severe Planning and Infrastructure Gaps in East Jerusalem

There are many gaps and a shortage of infrastructure in East Jerusalem today, including roads, public transportation infrastructure, office real estate, electricity, water, education, healthcare, and public spaces. These prevent economic growth in East Jerusalem and, consequently, the city as a whole. The five-year plan for East Jerusalem has helped close some of the gaps, but they remain significant. We will map the remaining infrastructure gaps in East Jerusalem in detail and promote their closure through both the newly approved national five-year plan and the municipality's resources.

Equality in Municipal Services for Residents of East Jerusalem

We will ensure that the municipality brings equality in the level of municipal services between the west of the city and the east. Despite some improvement, areas in East Jerusalem still suffer from gaps in basic services, such as cleanliness, sanitation, maintenance, supervision, and municipal response. We will ensure that the situation continues to improve: in partnership with community leaders in East Jerusalem, we will ensure that municipal services reach the same level of service that the municipality also provides in the west of the city. Raising the level of services in East Jerusalem will also allow more and more residents of East Jerusalem to participate in municipal payments, which will lead to an increase in the welfare level throughout the city.

Promoting Transparency and Data Availability on What is Happening in East Jerusalem

Transparency is a fundamental principle in democracy – the right of every citizen to receive information from the local authority about its actions. Although there has been improvement in recent years, there is still not full transparency regarding what is happening in East Jerusalem and the municipality's data related to it. We aspire to close this gap through concentrated efforts of the municipality and the government, together with civil society and community leaders in East Jerusalem.

Promoting Education in East Jerusalem - Formal and Informal

We will ensure that all schools in East Jerusalem are budgeted and supervised, including comprehensive involvement of the municipality in developing and improving the quality of teachers, the content provided to students, student welfare, the learning experience, the relevance of education to the job market, the level of language studies (Arabic, Hebrew, and English), and the physical condition of educational institutions. Additionally, we will encourage schools in East Jerusalem to transition to a curriculum adapted for the Israeli matriculation exams (בגרות). Furthermore, we will oversee the development of informal education systems such as youth movements, social movements, leadership programs, clubs, and enrichment studies intended for residents of East Jerusalem.

Promoting Community Involvement, Volunteering, and Social Entrepreneurship in East Jerusalem

In Jerusalem, as we envision it, all residents will be connected to the space in which they live, aspire to promote it socially and communally, and be aware of and open to development opportunities within that space. In this context, we will create new volunteering platforms in various fields for the youth of East Jerusalem and upgrade existing platforms; we will launch social networks for volunteering in East Jerusalem; open community frameworks for developing hobbies for young people; establish physical community spaces for social activity; and hold training sessions for social involvement for residents of East Jerusalem.

Promoting Employment Partnership

We will integrate the residents of East Jerusalem into the city's economic activity as an economic bridge between the east and west of the city. We will focus on promoting quality employment solutions through diverse means: promoting the high-tech sector by creating designated areas for high-tech companies and entrepreneurship; assisting businesses in East Jerusalem to establish themselves by closing infrastructure gaps and easing municipal bureaucracy; supporting international tourism in East Jerusalem by maintaining tourist sites, supporting tourism institutions, and encouraging local initiatives, including translating ITravelJerusalem.com into Arabic, contrary to the current situation; optimizing public transportation between the east and west of the city; promoting employment-oriented training for both young people and adults while addressing current limitations such as language, work experience, foreign degrees, and lack of connections; and strengthening programs for placing workers in various professions.

Economic Development and Cost of Living

- The Jerusalem hi-tech: a capital worthy of the “start-up nation”
- Business: Jerusalem is business friendly
- Arnona (municipal tax): a city with reasonable taxes
- A True Capital City: Establishing a vibrant government ecosystem in the capital of Israel
- Tourism: Jerusalem as an attractive city for tourists from all over the world

Jerusalem Hi-Tech: A Capital Worthy of the “Start-Up Nation”

The high-tech sector holds the greatest potential for developing Jerusalem’s economy, which is currently underutilized. Unfortunately, Jerusalem’s high-tech sector has experienced stagnation in recent years - only 12 high-tech companies were founded in Jerusalem in 2022, the city lacks large high-tech companies, and there has been no significant growth in the number of high-tech employees in recent years. The shortage of high-tech employment opportunities in Jerusalem leads to a lack of economic opportunities in the city and negative migration. In Hitorerut’s Jerusalem, the development of the high-tech sector will receive special emphasis. “Whenever one of the sons of Jerusalem went to the state, they would offer him a chair to sit upon, to hear his wisdom - בשביל לשמוע - בקתדרה לישב עליה, במציעין לו קתדרה לישב עליה, בשביל לשמוע - חוכמתו” (Midrash Rabbah).

Establishing an Authority for the Empowerment of High-Tech in the Jerusalem Metropolitan and Removing Barriers to its Growth

We will establish an active metropolitan authority that will empower the Jerusalem high-tech. This authority will operate, while learning from the world, in collaboration with municipal, industrial, and academic entities to create a high-tech ecosystem in the Jerusalem metropolitan; it will establish centers of excellence in areas where Jerusalem has a comparative advantage (biotech, AI, autonomous vehicles, etc.); it will establish training programs for the workforce in the Jerusalem metropolitan for work in high-tech; it will provide calculated incentives tailored to the needs of companies operating in Jerusalem; it will work to dramatically improve public transportation access to high-tech hubs such as Har Hotzvim; and it will promote entertainment and commercial centers near urban high-tech hubs.

Solving the Acute Barrier to High-Tech Development in the City: Offices

We will ensure the construction of offices suitable for high-tech throughout the neighborhoods, without waiting for the completion of the city’s entrance quarter, which will only provide a partial solution. We will renew existing high-tech centers, including in Har Hotzvim, Givat Shaul, Talpiot, the Technology Park, and Givat Ram. Among other things, we will create a fast track for granting building permits for employment and office spaces, and we will map abandoned properties that can be converted into office spaces.

Attracting Multinational Companies to Jerusalem That Will Provide Employment for Both Juniors and Seniors

We will bring large technology and multinational companies to Jerusalem, understanding that only they can employ high-tech workers without much experience (juniors). These companies do not enter the city today due to a lack of suitable offices, poor marketing, unsuitable conditions, and a lack of attention from the municipality. We will work closely with the leadership of these companies to identify the concrete barriers to their entry into the city and build a customized package for each company; we will perform the tasks required on the way to their arrival in the city; and we will build international relationships to promote the city’s branding.

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Supporting the Entrepreneurial Community to Empower High-Tech Initiatives Originating from Jerusalem

We will strengthen Jerusalem's entrepreneurial ecosystem. To do this, the metropolitan authority we establish will create tailored incentives for Jerusalem entrepreneurs, unlike the current situation where the incentives are not relevant to the city's entrepreneurs and there are many bureaucratic challenges in obtaining them. The authority will establish accelerators to assist entrepreneurs who choose to establish their company in the city, will strengthen civil society organizations that support the city's entrepreneurial community, and will build coworking spaces to support entrepreneurs at the beginning of their journey in different areas across the city. In addition, we will establish mechanisms for connecting entrepreneurs, industry, venture capital, and academia, which will "match" students, researchers, and artists with companies, entrepreneurs, and capital.

Developing High-Tech in East Jerusalem

We will build the infrastructures missing in East Jerusalem, acutely preventing the growth of high-tech in the area; the missing infrastructures include suitable offices, workspaces, and internet infrastructure. The neglect of the eastern part of the city does not allow high-tech in it to grow. We will create connections with funding bodies to support the entrepreneurial community in East Jerusalem and work to establish branches of Israeli and international companies in East Jerusalem.

Strengthening High-Tech in the Haredi Community

Along with the Haredi community in Jerusalem, we will work to promote entrepreneurs, workers, and professionals in the high-tech sector. We will promote this through specialized training for graduates of the Haredi education system, dedicated workspaces in Haredi neighborhoods, and removing barriers identified for the establishment of high-tech in the Haredi community. Success in this area will be an example to the entire country for a true partnership of Haredim in the economy.

Businesses: Jerusalem Friendly to Businesses

Tens of thousands of small and medium-sized businesses in Jerusalem are an essential part of the urban economic engine, employing dozens of percent of Jerusalem's wage earners. However, many businesses in Jerusalem currently face difficulties due to the prevailing perception in most authorities - not seeing the promotion of businesses in the city as a central goal and imposing various difficulties on them. In HitOrerut's Jerusalem, the success of businesses will be central: "The markets of Jerusalem are made to be honored every day - שוקי ירושלים עשויין להתכבד בכל יום" (Babylonian Talmud).

Strengthening Businesses as a Central Goal for the City and Branding Jerusalem as an Excellent City for Businesses

We will act to ensure that the municipality sees the success of businesses as its central goal. As part of this goal, the municipality will strengthen the support it provides to businesses across the city, increase the number of events aimed at strengthening businesses in different areas of the city, brand Jerusalem in Israel and the world as a business-friendly city, hold a business owners' forum to hear their opinions on issues and challenges on the way to their success, and shape its urban policy with a vision that sees the success of businesses as the central goal.

Building a True "One-Stop Shop" for New Businesses to Facilitate the Establishment of a New Business

We will establish a defined physical space, in an accessible location in the city, where new business owners can receive a holistic response to all the preliminary requirements before opening the business. This space will include representatives from all the authorities with which business owners are required to approve the opening of the business and will provide a quick, available, and quality response to any problem or issue that arises when opening a new business.

Initiating a Business Phone Line - "106 for Businesses"

We will initiate a phone line that will provide a response to businesses struggling with municipal bureaucracy. The human response given on this line will be authorized to deal with various bureaucratic issues related to businesses, will be in contact with all relevant municipal departments to solve business problems, and will hold comprehensive information on assistance and grants for businesses. Such a line will provide a real address for businesses in the city and will not limit success only to businesses that have connections in the municipality.

Reducing Municipal Bureaucracy That Currently Harms Businesses

We will ensure that municipal bureaucracy is not an obstacle to the success of businesses. For example, although the municipality currently offers many programs and grants intended to promote businesses in the city, the process on the way to receiving them is long and exhausting. We will ensure it becomes convenient and short. In addition, we will ensure that the municipality does not harm businesses through arbitrary fines for businesses that meet municipal requirements, and we will reduce unnecessary fees for business owners.

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Providing a Specific Response to Businesses Located at Construction and Infrastructure Development Sites

The construction of infrastructure such as the light rail lines is indeed good news for the city, but it has negative effects on the businesses located near them during construction. The scope and duration of the construction will deeply affect the income of businesses and their livelihood, and the municipality must provide a specific response to these business owners and owners. We will ensure that the municipality supports them, including through full transparency regarding the scope and duration of the work, support with specific grants, assistance in reaching alternative solutions when relevant, minimizing business activity disruption as much as possible, and flexibility in Arnona (municipal tax).

Building and Planning Directed Towards the Success of Businesses

We will direct urban planning to assist in the success of business activities. This includes ensuring that urban planning is characterized by a mix of business, residential, and office uses; building coworking spaces in neighborhoods; ensuring that the maintenance of commercial areas is optimal; building goods unloading bays for the convenience of businesses; holding events to strengthen businesses in neighborhoods; and strengthening community administrations so they can support businesses in the neighborhoods.

Arnona (municipal tax): A City with Reasonable taxes

Arnona payments are a necessary part of the municipality's proper functioning. At the same time, it should be acknowledged that Arnona is a significant part of the economic burden for households in Jerusalem, an annual event that causes immense frustration among the residents of Jerusalem, who see the high tax as a huge burden that does not match the low level of services provided by the municipality. In HitOrerut's Jerusalem, the Arnona will be reasonable and a balanced tool for the municipality to act solely for the benefit of the residents of Jerusalem: "All who are engaged in the community's needs faithfully – כל מי שעוסקים – בצרכי ציבור באמונה" (from the prayer).

Balancing Payments Among the City's Residents

Residents of Jerusalem currently pay some of the highest Arnona rates in Israel. Given that policy is determined at the national level, we will act from within the municipality with the government authorities to grant autonomy to Jerusalem, which will allow rebalancing the burden of payments among the city's residents - a burden currently unevenly distributed across different communities. The absence of balance primarily harms the working public, who see their income shrinking without real compensation. In addition, we will optimize the collection of interest payments of late Arnona payments, which is perceived by residents as arbitrary.

Rapid Implementation of a Convenient System for Paying Arnona, for Moving Apartments, and for Managing Payments for Shared Apartments

Most residents of Jerusalem are aware of their civic duty to pay Arnona. However, when they come to fulfil their obligation, they encounter significant difficulties, such as bureaucracy in transferring the payment obligation when moving and changing apartments, challenges in payments for shared apartments, the need for additional approvals on information the municipality already knows, challenges in receiving refunds and discounts, and frustration in dealing with municipal authorities. We will act to make the experience of paying simple, the process of changing holders efficient and fast, and the receipt of refunds efficient, swift, and fair. This will be done through the rapid implementation of a dedicated system for paying Arnona, receiving refunds, and managing Arnona affairs. Alongside this, we will publish and make the system accessible to residents and students throughout the city and on campuses.

Option to Pay Bi-monthly - as in Other Cities

In Jerusalem, residents are required to pay a high sum of Arnona at the beginning of each year (or to use Horaot Keva [automatic payments], a mechanism that, in practice, many residents do not utilize), which imposes a high cash flow burden on the city's working residents. We will change this and allow for easy and simple payment bi-monthly by credit card - as other cities in Israel allow.

Transparency and Accessibility of the Municipal Budget and the Use of Funds

While the obligation to pay Arnona is clear to those who pay it, the way the funds collected are used is not clear to them. Apart from a booklet that residents receive in the mail once a year, telling the municipality's achievements as it chose to tell them, the municipal budget is not accessible to the general public. Therefore,

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when the Arnona payment demand is sent, we will require the municipality to present a detailed and accessible breakdown of the municipal budget, including the uses of Arnona funds, in a verbal and visual manner, clearly and credibly. The breakdown will also include details of areas where the municipality plans to prevent waste and misuse of public funds in the upcoming payment period.

End to Arbitrary Blocking of Bank Account

Many residents in Jerusalem have experienced bank account blocking without any prior warning - whether due to an honest mistake or due to a delay in Arnona payment stemming from not receiving a payment demand from the municipality. Such an experience is extremely negative for residents and diminishes their trust in city institutions. We will eradicate this unsightly phenomenon through establishing a duty of direct, clear, and repetitive communication from the municipality towards the city's residents before any seizure or other enforcement steps by the municipality. In addition, we will put an end to the phenomenon where, in shared apartments, the account of the first person listed as a tenant in the apartment is blocked, not of the one who did not pay.

A True Capital City: Establishing a Vibrant Governmental Eco-System in Israel's Capital

Jerusalem is defined as the capital city of the State of Israel, and as such, is expected to be the focal point of governmental activity in Israel. However, it is evident that despite its designation as the capital city, Jerusalem is, unfortunately, not the center of government activity in the country. According to data from the Jerusalem Institute, only 12 percent of state employees live in Jerusalem, and only 23 percent of public sector jobs are located in the city. This represents a huge, missed opportunity for prosperity. HitOrerut's Jerusalem will be the true capital of the State of Israel: "Jerusalem is destined to become a metropolis להיעשות עתידה ירושלים - מטרופולין" (Midrash Raba).

Attracting government bodies to Jerusalem to boost the urban economy

We will use all the levers of the municipality - planning, legal, economic, public, and media - to attract offices, bodies, and government authorities to work in Jerusalem, as required by law. The relocation of these bodies to Jerusalem will be an engine for economic growth for the city and a focus of employment for university graduates. Additionally, we will ensure that the municipality works individually with each government body to overcome barriers to their relocation to the city.

Physical transformation of the Government Quarter so it becomes part of the urban fabric

Currently, the Government Quarter is an unwelcoming area for government bodies and employees. The area is disconnected from the rest of the city and characterized by fences and walls, isolation from the surrounding neighborhoods, limited walkability, and a lack of meeting places, dining, and entertainment options, in stark contrast to successful capital cities around the world - in a way that deters government bodies from coming to the city. We will launch a master plan for changing the face of the Government Quarter to attract government activity and related activities based on the following principles:

- Implementing mixed-uses in the Government Quarter and allowing for the establishment of cultural institutions, commercial spaces, cafes, and restaurants in the area.
- Improving walkability in the area, for example, by planting trees, physically altering sidewalks, adding benches, and laying comfortable paving.
- Lowering fences and walls around government office complexes, using security principles developed in comparable capital cities where government bodies are integrated into the urban fabric.
- Developing open and inviting spaces near government bodies to promote civic discourse, demonstrations, and protests to strengthen the possibility of expressing the democratic voice in the city.
- Providing convenient physical connectivity of the Government Quarter to the surrounding neighborhoods for pedestrians and transportation.

While the master plan is being implemented, we will implement temporary solutions to make the area more inviting for government employees and visitors in the short term, including providing shade, setting up temporary commercial stalls, bringing food trucks alongside seating areas, removing fences as much as possible, and organizing bus stations in a way that facilitates access to the area.



**Salute to the
victorious
generation!**

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Establishing Jerusalem as a leading and vibrant hub for civil society

We will work to turn Jerusalem into a vibrant hub for civil actors in the governmental eco-system - civil society, nonprofits, and research institutions. As part of this, we will work to create physical spaces near the Government Quarter to host nonprofits and civil society organizations that are created in Jerusalem or move there from other cities, and we will encourage nonprofits to operate from the city.

Building complementary components for the Jerusalem governmental eco-system

We will work to bring additional components of a vibrant governmental eco-system to the city, including encouraging and removing barriers for the arrival of government-technology (gov-tech) companies to the city, alongside Israeli and international media bodies and public and private lobbying organizations.

Branding Jerusalem in Israel and the world as the government city of Israel and a research hub on government, religion, and state issues

We will brand Jerusalem as the government city within Israel and also focus on branding it in the international arena as the central government city of the State of Israel - to attract foreign representations that currently hardly exist in the city. In addition, we aim to make Jerusalem a recognized academic center in the world in the field of government research and issues of religion and state - given its unique experience in this area.

Tourism: Jerusalem as a Tourist Attraction for Visitors from Around the World

“Ten measures of beauty descended upon the world, nine were taken by Jerusalem, and one by the rest of the world – כולו – כל העולם נטלה ירושלים ואחד כל העולם כולו – (Babylonian Talmud): Three billion Jews, Muslims, and Christians look towards Jerusalem. Even among the rest of the world’s citizens, many see Jerusalem as a fascinating, exciting, and interesting destination. However, it is noticeable that Jerusalem is not maximizing its tourism sector potential, which could be a source of employment for tens of thousands of Jerusalemites and a driver for the city’s economic growth. HitOrerut’s Jerusalem will ensure the empowerment of the Jerusalem tourism sector and double the number of tourists arriving in Jerusalem by 2028.

Jerusalem with Tourism Infrastructure for Every Budget

Although Jerusalem has luxury hotels, it lacks tourism infrastructure suited to the diverse range of tourists who could potentially visit Jerusalem, especially affordable lodging such as hostels, guesthouses, and reasonably priced hotels. The costs associated with a trip to Jerusalem deter potential tourists and visitors. We will bridge this gap through regulation and incentives for significant construction of accessible tourism infrastructure.

A Jerusalem that Welcomes Tourists

Being a tourist in Jerusalem is not easy. A leading example of this is the lack of convenient tourist centers; although there are several tourism offices, they are not up to the standards that tourists around the world are accustomed to. In addition, there is difficulty in obtaining clear information in English and other languages about tourist sites or events taking place in the city. We will establish and upgrade urban tourism centers and make information about sites and events clearly and comprehensively accessible to tourists in a variety of languages - in a way that will bring Jerusalem to the forefront of the world’s tourist cities. We will involve Jerusalem’s service providers in the tourism sector in this process.

Proper Maintenance of Tourist Sites

The maintenance of tourist sites in Jerusalem is lacking, as evidenced by reports from the State Comptroller and testimonials from service providers in this sector; Jerusalem’s tourist sites are currently characterized by neglect and dirtiness. We will ensure that the municipality properly maintains Jerusalem’s unique tourist sites, among the city’s greatest assets, and will work with the government to properly budget the municipality in light of its responsibility for many of the national heritage sites.

Strengthening Tourism Collaborations

We will strengthen Jerusalem’s ties with other cities in Israel, the Middle East (leveraging the “Abraham Accords”), and the world. Through these connections, we will offer joint tourism packages to tourists from around the world and strengthen mutual tourism between the residents of these cities.

Making Accessible Tourist Experiences Unique to Jerusalem

In Jerusalem, one can find experiences that do not exist anywhere else in the world. Examples include the experience of walking in Jerusalem on Shabbat and having a Shabbat meal with a Jerusalemite family that opens its home by choice. These could be unique experiences that attract tourists to the city; however, currently, there is no real accessibility to such an experience for tourists. We will make these special Jerusalem experiences accessible to tourists through the creation of a dedicated platform, which could also be an additional source of income for guides and hosting families.

Marketing Jerusalem as a Tourism City: “Visit the Center of the World!”

We will launch a wide-ranging and ongoing marketing campaign to bring tourists that diversify the audiences coming to Jerusalem. This campaign will market the city’s advantages, including its religious sites, historical heritage, and unique culture. In addition, we will market Jerusalem as a city worth holding international business conferences in.

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The character and identity of the city

- The identity of the neighborhoods: Jerusalem that has a place for everyone
- Religion and city: Jerusalem with a place for every lifestyle
- The community administrations: strengthening the autonomy of the neighborhoods
- Education: bringing the values to the forefront
- Culture and spirit: come to spend time in Jerusalem
- Nightlife: a fun city to be living in

Neighborhood Identity: Jerusalem, Where There's a Place for Everyone

In Hitorerut's Jerusalem, there is a place for everyone. It is essential that every Jerusalemite feels at home and secure in the knowledge that future generations will also find their place in the city. This concern is deep in the hearts of many Jerusalemites, who fear they may not have a place in the future Jerusalem. It is crucial to ensure the existence of diverse neighborhoods where secular, religious, traditional, and ultra-Orthodox residents can feel comfortable. In the policy of Hitorerut, this issue will be addressed by establishing a neighborhood blueprint that looks to the future and take into account the needs of all populations, making them feel at home: "Jerusalem shall dwell and be secure, with its surroundings cities – ועריה סביבותיה, וירושלם יושבת ושלווה, וזכריהו" (Zechariah).

Defining the Character of Neighborhoods for 30 Years Based on the Current Population Composition

To ensure that Jerusalem will have a place for everyone in the future, each neighborhood will be defined as secular, general (secular and religious), religious, ultra-Orthodox, or mixed (ultra-Orthodox, secular, and religious) based on the current population distribution. This neighborhood definition will be statutorily set as fixed and unchangeable for 30 years. Five years before the end of this period, a team in collaboration with residents and professionals will be established to examine the renewal of the neighborhood blueprint for the coming decades, ensuring it adheres to the principles of this blueprint.

Setting a Fixed Key for 30 Years for Public Buildings According to the Neighborhood Definition

Public buildings in each neighborhood (such as schools, kindergartens, religious buildings, etc.) will be allocated according to the above definition given to each neighborhood. For example, in secular neighborhoods, schools will be secular and will not allocate buildings for Batei Midrash and yeshivas, while in ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods, all schools will be ultra-Orthodox, with a significant allocation of buildings for yeshivas and synagogues. In mixed neighborhoods, the allocation will be set for 30 years in proportion to the current population distribution.

Determining the Public Space Identity of Each Neighborhood According to the Neighborhood Definitions and Population Composition

The operation of public spaces in each neighborhood will be determined according to the neighborhood definitions. In secular neighborhoods, public institutions on Shabbat (such as public pools) will be open, and the opening of entertainment, cultural, and dining places will be allowed. In ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods, these institutions will be closed. In mixed neighborhoods where at least 10 percent of the residents identify themselves as secular, public institutions and places of entertainment, culture, and dining will also be open on Shabbat in areas of the neighborhoods characterized by a larger proportion of secular residents.

Promoting Urban Renewal in Ultra-Orthodox Neighborhoods

The transformation of secular neighborhoods to mixed and from mixed to ultra-Orthodox is partly due to the fact that the ultra-Orthodox population does not receive a satisfactory response to housing needs in neighborhoods defined as ultra-Orthodox. To enable the ultra-Orthodox population to receive a proper response to their housing needs and prevent the transition to secular neighborhoods, urban renewal projects will be vigorously promoted in neighborhoods defined as ultra-Orthodox, contrary to the current situation where there are hardly any urban renewal projects in these neighborhoods.

Religion and city: Jerusalem with a place for every lifestyle

Jerusalem is home to an astonishing variety of religious and non-religious communities. The broad spectrum of beliefs, customs, and lifestyles is part of what makes this city so special. However, many Jerusalemites are concerned that in the future, there will not be room to maintain the lifestyle that suits them; HitOrerut's Jerusalem will be a city with a place for everyone, for every religious and non-religious lifestyle: "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: those who that love you will prosper – ישליו אובהייך – ירושלים, ישליו אובהייך" (Tehilim).

The Principle of Non-Coercion as a Central Principle in City Policies and Public Spaces

We will establish the principle of non-coercion, as articulated in the Gabison-Medan Covenant, as a central principle of municipal policy and in public spaces. This principle affirms respect for the right of every group to maintain its way of life according to its understanding and interpretation.

The Jerusalemite Shabbat - With Room for Everyone

We will preserve as much as possible the character of the Shabbat and its status as a general day of rest. We call for a social-community culture that recognizes others, creating a public space that is pleasant and non-coercive for all parts of Jerusalem's diversity. We will balance the needs of those who wish to travel on weekends with those who do not - through the use of non-noisy minibuses, flexible routes based on advance booking rather than fixed lines and avoiding passage through ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods. To this end, we will establish the HitOrerut's Shabbat minibus pilot, providing shared transportation on weekends (see more on this in the full platform section on transportation). Additionally, we will prevent the closure of additional Jerusalem transport arteries to traffic on Shabbats. We support activities of culture and leisure on Shabbat for youth, families, and the elderly throughout the city. We will encourage joint cultural projects of religious and secular people, through Shabbat-observant cultural activities that allow all sectors to meet and spend time together.

Zero Tolerance for the Exclusion of Women and Their Erasure from the Public Sphere

We will fight and sharply condemn the defacement of women's images in Jerusalem, and their exclusion from streets, buses, stages, and public roles. We will ensure that women, who constitute 50% of the city's population, have an equal place in Jerusalem. See more on this in the full platform chapter on gender equality, detailing the HitOrerut plan to combat the phenomenon of women's exclusion in the public sphere and in decision-making centers.

Quality Response in Religious Services that Maintains Jerusalem's Diversity

We will work to upgrade the response provided by the municipality in relation to religious services, including religious sites, synagogues, neighborhood rabbis, and mikvahs. In this context, the allocation of public buildings in the various neighborhoods will match each neighborhood's definition and unique character, as detailed in the full platform chapter on neighborhood identity. In addition, we will ensure that the Jerusalem Religious Council is clean-handed, operates in transparently, and represents the diversity of streams and identities of the Jerusalem public. Furthermore, we will ensure that the Religious Council acts serviceably towards the public and facilitates residents' interaction with it. We support institutions of spirit and learning where pluralistic study allows expression to the variety of Jewish streams and the complex human mosaic of the city.

Freedom, Respect, and Tolerance Towards All Religions in the City

Jerusalem is a sacred city for the three monotheistic religions. We will maintain the right to worship and freedom of religion for Jewish, Christian, and Muslim institutions and individuals and act decisively against any hate crime towards any religious group in the city.

Promoting Dialogue Among Population Groups in Jerusalem

Dialogue and cooperation are the means to ensure harmony in the intersectoral relations in the city. We will create ongoing dialogue at the grassroots level and at the leadership level between groups from religious and non-religious communities.

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בראשות אדיר שורץ

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The community administrations: Strengthening the Autonomy of Neighborhoods

The unique diversity of Jerusalem's neighborhoods is one of the city's special features. The community administrations in Jerusalem are a unique model in Israel, where the community is involved in decision-making and neighborhood activity management. However, currently, the autonomy of community administrations is limited in a way that does not optimally harness the community's power to improve the city. In Hitorerut's Jerusalem, residents know best what is good for them - let's allow them to decide. "Whoever has not seen Jerusalem in its glory, has not seen a nice city - לא ראה ירושלים בתפארתה, כך נחמד מעולם" (Babylonian Talmud)

Budget Empowerment of Community Administrations

We will strengthen the budgets allocated to community administrations as part of the city budget and base them on clear criteria (for example, the number of residents) - so they will not depend on the good will of city officials. Part of this budget will be allocated to specific types of activities, and another part, which will significantly increase from its current level, will be at the discretion of the community administration and independent of city council decisions. Additionally, we will allocate a significant portion (10 - 20 percent) of the residents' Arnona payments to the respective community administrations to strengthen the residents' ability to influence the future of their neighborhoods according to their unique characteristics.

Empowering the Authorities of Community Administrations

Currently, community administrations do not have legal authority, and the issue is even disputed in courts. We will promote a statutory change that strengthens the status of community administrations so their powers will match those of district committees in other cities and local councils in regional councils. As part of this, we will institutionalize the obligation to consult with the administrations regarding projects carried out in their areas and the allocation of buildings in the neighborhoods under their responsibility, grant autonomy in organizing activities and events, and define the right to participate in any discussion in the city and country that involves the neighborhood under the administration's responsibility. Moreover, we will prevent the presence of city representatives in the management of the administrations, as they weaken local democracy and affect the autonomy of the neighborhoods. Simultaneously, public oversight of the administrations will be strengthened to prevent corruption and misuse of powers and funds, and they will be required to adhere to the laws of tenders and transparency of local authorities.

Conducting Regular and Institutionalized Elections for Community Administrations

We aim to significantly increase the voting rate of neighborhood residents for community administrations. To do this, we will align the elections of community administrations with the city council elections. Thus, Jerusalemites will vote every five years with three ballots: for the mayor, the city council, and their community administration. By institutionalizing the election mechanism for community administrations, there will not be long periods without elections for administrations, as has happened in the past. Regular, supervised, and institutionalized elections will increase the legitimacy of community administrations as true representatives of the residents and as their voice against the municipality. Simultaneously, mechanisms for participatory democracy at the neighborhood level, led by the administration, where residents will influence issues that affect them, will also be determined.

Establishing a Municipal Headquarters for Community Administrations

To empower community administrations, we will establish a unified headquarters for community administrations in Jerusalem, independent of the municipality and the Community Center Company (in the model of the Center for Local Government that unites local authorities). This headquarters will offer training for members of community administrations, allow a basis for sharing work methods, and provide a platform for coordinating policy at the inter-neighborhood level.

27.2.24

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בראשות אדיר שורץ

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Education: Bringing Values to the Forefront

Education is the key that establishes the city's future and ensures its prosperity and the quality of life of its residents. Currently, Jerusalem lacks a comprehensive educational policy - schools are threatened with closure, liberal content is pushed to the margins, and there is a significant shortage of teachers. HitOrerut's Jerusalem will have a comprehensive education policy for Jerusalem, addressing the values taught, the community's connection to educational institutions, and the empowerment of Jerusalem's unique schools, as a capital for education: "As an eagle who carries its young on its wings - על כנפיו" (Shai Agnon).

Liberal Education - From Kindergarten to 12th Grade

We will encourage proper training of teachers from the general sector for state schools and will not introduce educational institutions to neighborhoods that do not match their character (see more on this in the full platform chapter on neighborhood identity). We will cultivate activities on shared living among students from different sectors and create permanent partnerships between diverse schools from which they come. To this end, we will invest in education for tolerance in all schools and increase budgets allocated for this purpose. We will incentivize schools that teach core curriculum subjects and prepare for the Israeli matriculation exams, in the ultra-Orthodox and Arab sectors, and strengthen state religious education. Furthermore, we will work with the Ministry of Education to establish a subsidized basket of liberal content in several clusters (democracy, humanism, gender, shared living, tolerance, etc.) for school principals to choose from.

100% Investment in Teaching Staff

We will integrate teaching students into city schools during their practical training, offering scholarships and support that will allow them to enter full teaching positions afterward. We will encourage retraining for teaching for Jerusalemites specializing in academic, governmental, and heritage professions. Moreover, we will expand the circle of veteran teachers receiving personal support from the Ministry of Education, such as through the "Beta Mechanism" program. Additionally, we will initiate programs to integrate teachers from East Jerusalem, where there are thousands of unemployed teachers, into the western part of the city, where there is a shortage of teachers.

Strengthening Schools - Educational Stability

We will outline a new data-based municipal policy that will protect schools in neighborhoods and strengthen existing schools over the establishment of new ones, fighting vigorously against overcrowding in classrooms. We will create security and stability for principals, allowing five-year planning, and work to close the classroom gap across the city, especially in East Jerusalem and in ultra-Orthodox education, but not at the expense of state schools. Additionally, we will improve transparency in school registration regarding the placement system for state institutions, including detailing criteria for student preference and public lotteries. We will also increase municipal support and guidance for principals and teaching staff, emphasizing the development of a sense of municipal belonging for teachers and listening to their needs and challenges.

Jerusalem as the Capital of Education

We will create a safe and healthy environment for children and youth, reflected in an efficient and accessible transportation system, proper infrastructure within the school environment, and nutritious meals. Within this framework, we will fund the renovation of schools and neglected buildings; strengthen and expand the offering of regional Jerusalemite learning tracks (Megamot); promote educational content about Jerusalem, its neighborhoods, and its history in schools; and strengthen students' connection to the city. Concurrently, we will encourage schools to develop their uniqueness, through targeted funding, giving autonomy to principals. Moreover, we will encourage multi-purpose use of municipal educational buildings in the evenings for non-formal education, utilizing community administrators in neighborhoods to build enrichment programs and clubs.

It Takes a Village to Raise a Child - From the Community to Education

We will create school communities that work together - teaching staff will discuss key issues, enter each other's classrooms, and support schools with low enrolment. We will promote Jerusalemite parent communities and mutual support systems, focusing also on monitoring excessive parental payments. Additionally, we will expand the urban volunteer corps in schools, from youth movements and non-formal education, through National Service, students, to the elderly. Furthermore, we will subsidize after-school programs also for students in 3rd and 4th grades. Lastly, we will strengthen the connection between schools and the educational psychological service, building a complete envelope for students in need.

ירושלים בוחרת
בדור הנצחון!

HitOrerut!
in Jerusalem

Culture and Spirit: Enjoying Jerusalem

Jerusalem is the city with the greatest cultural diversity in Israel. Investing in culture multiplies its benefits for society, the economy, the quality of life, and the city's image, once a destination for recreational visits. In HitOrerut's Jerusalem, establishing a routine of cultural activities in the city, while empowering the local artist community, art schools, and institutions, will build a cultural capital: "...for all my songs are of thee הלא לכלל - אני כינור" (Naomi Shemer).

Independent Jerusalemite Culture

We will eliminate the city's dependence on the Ministry of Culture for ongoing support for Jerusalem artists, creating a budgetary cultural independence for Jerusalem by establishing a separate category for small and medium-sized cultural bodies. This ensures a balanced investment between large institutions and independent artists. We will fund collaborations between veteran cultural institutions and young Jerusalemite creators and ensure that the funds recently transferred by the Ministry of Culture to local authorities for discretionary use in culture are fully and transparently utilized, emphasizing the sustainability of cultural projects and festivals year after year.

Proud of Our Artists

We will increase support for the activities of independent Jerusalemite artists and artist communities, launching a campaign to showcase and assist them in gaining publicity. We will support the establishment of a Jerusalemite artists' forum in every field (dance, theatre, music, cinema, etc.), encouraged by the municipality, to serve as an official expert forum for advising municipal departments. Additionally, we will utilize buildings for artists and implement existing municipal plans on this issue. We will also establish a mentoring program between veteran and young Jerusalemite artists to encourage the young to stay in Jerusalem and financially support the veterans.

Bringing the Family to Jerusalem

We will increase the advertising budget for major Jerusalem cultural events nationwide, cooperating with other cities to encourage cultural domestic tourism to Jerusalem. We will make Jerusalem's cultural events accessible in additional languages and to tourists through hotels, and we will upgrade the marketing of these events abroad. We will work to bring the Ministry of Culture's review committees to Jerusalem to expose them to local artists firsthand. Furthermore, we will launch programs that bring together different sectoral cultural events to build cultural events that encourage shared living.

Culture Throughout the Year - In All Neighborhoods

We will launch an annual calendar of Jerusalem cultural festivals, incentivized by the municipality to promote themselves on a centralized calendar, creating cultural continuity and synchronicity throughout the year, especially in winter. We will expand cultural activities in neighborhoods, not only for children and young families but also for seniors and students. We will help distribute cultural events to more Jerusalemites, making them accessible to the wider public, while increasing exposure to Jerusalemite culture. We will support the establishment of large cultural complexes active on weekends - as we continue to fight for a

venue like Lev Smadar. Lastly, we will encourage grassroots cultural events and push for the creation of a new regional fund that will support cultural activities in the city and allow for its expansion.

Bureaucracy is Not a Masterpiece

We will ease the bureaucratic burden required from artists and festival producers to receive municipal support, creating a one-stop-shop where they need to present information for funding, with guidance and assistance. We will work to reduce bottlenecks in support and licensing processes, creating a municipal "Service Level Agreement (SLA)" for handling requests and inquiries. Additionally, we will give preference in tenders to Jerusalemite artists active in the city within municipal cultural events and cultivate a new generation of Jerusalemite cultural producers.



**Salute to the
victorious
generation!**

HitOrerut!
in Jerusalem

Nightlife: a fun city to be in

Jerusalem's nightlife is an essential and unique part of the city's business and cultural diversity and serves as a significant component in creating an attractive environment for young people and the working population. However, currently, there are many challenges in Jerusalem's nightlife sector, diminishing the city's image as a fun place to be. In HitOrerut's Jerusalem, these difficulties will be removed as part of a significant effort to transform Jerusalem into a thriving and appealing city: "Yet again there will be heard in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem... the voice of joy and the voice of gladness ובחוצות יהודה ובחוצות ירושלים... קול ששון וקול שמחה - (Jeremiah).

Establishment of a professional team for the renewal of Jerusalem's nightlife scene

In recent years, Jerusalem's nightlife has undergone a prolonged decline, with one establishment after another closing for various reasons. Professionals from within the country and around the world will be brought together to find ways to revive Jerusalem's unique nightlife scene.

Easing the way for new businesses in nightlife

Jerusalem is responsible for facilitating the opening and licensing of businesses in the nightlife sector. As part of this, and as mentioned in the full platform chapter on businesses in Jerusalem, a "one stop shop" will be established - a dedicated physical space in an accessible location in the city where a new business can get holistic responses to all preliminary requirements before opening. In this space, representatives will also support throughout the specific process of opening a new business in the nightlife sector. Additionally, the many existing licensing requirements before opening clubs or installing stages for performances have been eased.

Putting a stop to the endless bureaucratic demands from bars and clubs

Today, the city council piles up bureaucratic demands on existing businesses in the nightlife sector, requiring, for example, physical attendance at the city council annually to approve the placement of chairs in public spaces. Efforts will be made to ease the requirements on nightlife businesses operating in Jerusalem - reducing demands as much as possible and making the remaining ones implementable in an efficient and rapid manner, such as through a convenient digital system.

Creating fun zones - establishing designated areas for the growth of nightlife

Designated areas will be created for nightlife businesses where the best conditions for their success will be applied. In these areas, carefully defined considering the needs of businesses and residents, the city council will issue calls for the establishment of bars and clubs with its support, will allow noise into the night contrary to other residential areas, and will provide public transportation during nights and weekends to and from these areas.

Jerusalem City Council – are you Awake?

The city council operates various programs to support businesses and cultural institutions in the city, including nightlife activities. However, the current financial support can be significantly expanded and made

more accessible, unlike today's situation where nightlife businesses are required to go through tiresome bureaucracy before receiving assistance from the city council and are subject to strict and stifling control over the type of activity. In particular, budgetary support will be promoted for types of nightlife businesses that are currently in short supply, such as clubs and party venues.

Stopping municipal harassment of nightlife institutions

Today, the city council complicates the operation of nightlife businesses in various areas of the city, such as the Mahane Yehuda market, imposing heavy fines that are often disproportionate to the business's activity. The harassment of nightlife institutions across the city will be stopped, and an approach of supporting these institutions will be promoted instead of "searching" for places where it is possible to complicate business operations.

הת

התעוררות בירושלים
בראשות אדיר שורץ

לחיי העם הזה!

HitOrerut!
in Jerusalem

Multigenerational Jerusalem

- Early childhood: building the future generation of Jerusalem
- Young Adults: a city where it is good to grow up
- Young people: the beating heart of the city
- Families: a city where you want to grow
- Senior Citizens: Jerusalem of the Golden Age

Early Childhood: Building Jerusalem's Future Generation

Hitorerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including young children. Over 10 percent of Jerusalem's residents are ages birth to 6 - they are the city's future citizens. All research shows that investments in early childhood will significantly influence their quality of life later on. The current situation, with a severe shortage of institutions and skyrocketing costs of living, cannot continue. "The sages established that teachers for young children should be appointed in Jerusalem - בירושלים מלמדי תינוקות" (Babylonian Talmud).

Accessible Kindergartens - Next to Your Work

Construction permits for new employment complexes in Jerusalem will include the establishment of kindergartens within these employment area complexes, with a one-time municipal grant provided to operators who start these kindergartens. Children of working parents living in Jerusalem can register if at least one parent works in that employment area. Employment places will be encouraged to subsidize 25 percent of the parents' kindergarten payment, and 25 percent of the subsidy cost will be offset by a municipal tax (Arnona) discount the municipality will give to businesses participating in the project.

All Information to be Given to Parents

We will map the existing early childhood institutions in Jerusalem and identify the most significant gaps. We will increase transparency regarding the current offering and launch a campaign to raise awareness among parents about maximizing their rights, while establishing a municipal support center for parents that will also assist them in finding available childcare option. Furthermore, we will establish a permanent expert forum on this subject that will continue to meet at the municipal level, in collaboration with parents, and will provide a mark of quality for Jerusalem institutions. Finally, we will set up parent-caregiver tours to strengthen trust and develop early childhood in the city and operate an open line for parents.

Equal Opportunity in Every Neighborhood

We will work to establish early childhood institutions in neighborhoods lacking such facilities, with mixed-use construction – residential areas alongside kindergartens, allowing families to seek care and education close to home. We will not allow the closure of state kindergartens in mixed neighborhoods (see more on this in the full platform chapter on neighborhood identity). We will strengthen the independence and freedom of action of kindergartens and nurseries and encourage creative and enriching programs. Also, we will demand a reduction in the costs of camps and other afternoon frameworks under municipal supervision. In addition, we will expand the number of kindergartens participating in the programs that operate in cooperation with community administrators, increase the number of early childhood activity centers, and develop the existing ones.

Life-Saving Supervision

We will encourage the construction of supervised municipal frameworks and the inclusion of existing frameworks under supervision. We will work on training inspectors with a mandate to enter kindergartens, and they will be required to report their supervision findings transparently. We will promote the training of paediatricians to report on recurrent illnesses of a child that may originate from the educational establishments, and work on building deep collaborations with Tipat Chalav (Israel's child healthcare centers). We will supervise the content to which children are exposed, with an emphasis on preventing the entry of ultra-Orthodox education into secular, traditional, and national-religious kindergartens.

Young Adults: A City That's Great to Grow Up In

HitOrerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including the youth who are educated from childhood in Jerusalem and absorb the uniqueness of the city. The city's youth are active and commonly volunteer, continually contributing to the community and environment. This is the time when one falls in love with Jerusalem, building the next generation of leadership. Jerusalem's youth need to be empowered, in a city that's great to grow up in: "The city streets will be filled with boys and girls playing in its streets וילדים ימלאו ילדות ותילדותיה - ממשחקים ברחובותיה" (Zechariah).

Youth Movements and Informal Education

Youth movements and informal education frameworks shape many of the values on which young men and women grow up, providing a foundation to become active and volunteer for society. We will increase the budgets for youth movements, encourage the appointment of coordinators in schools to maintain a strong connection, upgrade and redesign older buildings for youth movement while expediting bureaucracy, and strengthen the Youth Movement Week in the city so it will be accessible to all. Additionally, we will enhance coordination between community managers and movements, to reflect a neighborhood status of activities and develop new projects. We will economically motivate movements to integrate Jerusalem education - about heritage, history, neighborhoods, and the city's diversity - into their activities.

Fun Is Encouraged

We will invest in developing sports and leisure activities for youth in neighborhoods, especially during the evenings and summer days, and in building new recreational spots for youth. We will expand public transportation services during night hours to facilitate youth access to entertainment venues from across the city. And we will invest in building new entertainment places for youth. We will promote municipal services and activities intended for youth on new social networks and consult with leading youth groups on new developments. We will increase municipal assistance in finding holiday jobs for young men and women, connecting them with Jerusalem businesses in need of workers.

Active Youth is Leading Youth

We will support youth leadership programs throughout the city, with municipal backing. We will enrich municipal offerings in schools, in areas of social leadership, and open volunteer frameworks in organized municipal community projects as part of the "Personal Commitment" program. Furthermore, we will launch an informational campaign about the importance of using diverse public transportation for youth, while mapping the unique needs of youth in this area. We encourage broad environmental education in schools as well - see more on this in the full platform chapter about environmental and climate protection.

Protecting Our Youth

We will expand the training of formal and informal education staff on smoking prevention, fighting drugs, proper alcohol consumption, depression, and healthy sexuality. We will focus on training informal education staff to respond in emergencies, in collaboration with welfare, police, and formal educational institutions. Additionally, we will work with the government to improve the conditions of youth promotion workers, encourage the activity of parent patrols at youth nightlife spots in the city - see more on this in the full platform chapter about families.

Service Years and Pre-Military Academies - Investing in Jerusalem's Volunteers

Jerusalem is full of service years (Shnat Sherut) and pre-military academies (Mechinot), attracting participants from across the country. We will hold a municipal fair to expose more of Jerusalem's youth to these opportunities, promote a coordinators' forum in constant contact with the municipality, and organize additional recognition events for volunteers. We will integrate the participants in significant municipal volunteering, open additional frameworks in the city, and encourage participants to return and live in Jerusalem in the future.

Saluting Soldiers - Jerusalem Enlists

We will encourage Jerusalem schools with high enlistment rates with special budgets and support pre-IDF preparation programs operating in schools through the Ministry of Education's Youth and Society Administration. We will renovate the transportation stations to bases and establish a comfortable and shaded waiting terminal at the central transportation stations at Givat HaTachmoshet and Teddy locations. Also, we will make the municipal youth centers accessible to freshly discharged soldiers, offering them expert advice towards civilian life, studying and career, with special benefits for those who return to live in Jerusalem after their military service.

27.2.24

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Young People: The Heartbeat of the City

Hitorerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including the young men and women who constitute about a quarter of the population. The youth are the urban engine, driving culture and the economy. They are the students who come here to study and the Jerusalem youth who have grown up; they create the next generation of Jerusalem leadership that takes responsibility, just like in Hitorerut. "Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad about her, all you who love her; rejoice for joy with her - שישו איתה משוש - שמחו את ירושלים וגילו בה כל אוהביה, שישו איתה משוש" (Isaiah).

Full Partners - Ending the Suffering in Shared Apartments

Today, the Jerusalem Municipality requires residents of shared apartments to pay Arnona (municipal tax) individually, to reduce the discounts given, but stops seeing them as individuals the moment there is any payment issue. We will stop the endless hassle and bureaucracy in paying Arnona for shared apartments; stop the blocking of bank accounts of the first payer in the account even if another partner has not paid; cancel the need to open a new Arnona account every time a partner in the apartment changes; and create a personal and accessible digital Arnona account while expediting the implementation of the new system. More on how we will simplify the experience - in the full platform chapter on Arnona.

Young Culture by Night and Day

Not long ago, young people from all over the country would come to Jerusalem for its incredible club scene and nightlife. Today, it's hard for bar and club owners in Jerusalem to survive, and their numbers are dwindling. We will reverse this trend, encourage the opening of new neighborhood bars, and invest resources to save Jerusalem's nightlife - see more on this in the full platform chapter on nightlife. We will also develop young culture during the day, increase the frequency of events for young people produced by the municipality, thus creating a continuum of cultural events and parties throughout the year. We will encourage grassroots cultural initiatives created by young people, allocating budgets to support and promote them.

Putting the Brakes on Skyrocketing Rent Prices

Rent prices in Jerusalem are rising and pushing young people out because it's simply unaffordable to live here. We will combat these soaring prices by constructing apartments that are suitable for young couples and shared apartments, as part of a diverse housing mix across neighborhoods. We will incorporate, as part of urban renewal, the construction of long-term rental apartments specifically designed for young people - more on this in the full platform chapter on urban planning and housing. We will expand the "Recommended Urban Rental Contract" project, ensuring fair relations between tenants and landlords in the city, under decent conditions.

Not Settling for the Minimum - Bringing Quality Employment

Many Jerusalem students earn minimum wages in government and public student jobs, while high-quality student jobs in other fields are lacking. We will work with the government to improve the conditions of student jobs in government offices in Jerusalem as part of making Jerusalem a government city (more on this in the full platform chapter on Jerusalem as a government city). We will build offices and attract large

high-tech companies that can offer students and quality junior positions (more on this in the full platform chapter on high-tech), and work to create student jobs in additional fields. We will encourage and fund young entrepreneurship and leaders, open additional learning, and entrepreneurship spaces in the city, and strengthen the activity of youth centers that support initiatives and municipal scholarships for Jerusalemites.

Getting Around - Transportation for Every Destination

Public transportation to entertainment, education, and employment hubs will be a top priority. We will increase bus lines and emphasize the construction of bicycle paths, particularly in central neighborhoods such as Rehavia and Nachlaot, to enable easy and convenient transport. We will extend the operating hours of the light rail and buses to nighttime throughout the week for flexibility at any time and day. We will fight for weekend and Shabbat transportation in Jerusalem and establish the "Hitorerut Weekend Minibus" pilot. More on this in the full platform chapter on transportation.

Families: A City Where You Want to Grow

Hitorerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including the Jerusalem families that are the foundation of the city's active communities, which in turn are the foundation of neighborhoods and all of Jerusalem. The city must address the challenges faced by families, make Jerusalem child-friendly, and strengthen the Jerusalem community spirit that is so important for the family experience: "The families in Jerusalem are beautiful יפות - הן המשפחות בירושלים" (Yehuda Amichai).

Empowering Jerusalem Communities

Strong and cohesive communities are also a basis for family prosperity and can offer families a wide and quality range of services and support, including logistics, assistance in times of crisis, and spiritual needs. We will strengthen communities based on geographic area, educational institutions, or other common denominators, by empowering the community coordinators' array in community administrations; creating a dedicated fund for initiatives coming from the communities such as community gardens, community sharing systems (like a baby carrier sharing system) and improving the neighborhood's appearance; and budgeting for family events and culture.

Assistance for Families Coping with the Cost of Living

The cost of living in Israel, and specifically in Jerusalem, ranks among the highest in the developed world, burdening Jerusalemite families with the ongoing financial strain of city life. We will utilize municipal levers to

reduce living costs for families: lowering housing prices through prudent construction (detailed in the chapter on urban planning and housing), reducing prices for early childhood frameworks and after-school programs from early childhood up to fourth grade (detailed in the chapters on early childhood and education), and lowering prices for extracurricular activities, culture, and activities through the strengthening of community administrations (detailed in the chapter on administrations).

Jerusalem with Quality of Life and Safety for Children

We aspire to create a Jerusalem with a good quality of life for its children. As part of this, we will renovate and renew playgrounds; strengthen community administrations to organize frequent events for children and families; upgrade parks and sports fields; support community initiatives for children (such as sports tournaments and story hours); and upgrade municipal libraries. Additionally, we will create a safer environment for children in Jerusalem. As part of this, we will ensure that municipal supervision promptly maps and addresses all hazards in public spaces, parks, streets, and educational institutions; promote regular safety checks in facilities, gardens, and schools; and continuously assess the security level at the entrances to educational institutions.

Jerusalem with Personal Security for All Its Families and Residents

We will work to promote a Jerusalem with a sense of personal security for all its families and residents. As part of this, led by community administrations, we will promote community patrol tours at night to prevent crime and violence and parent patrols in neighborhoods to prevent youth crime. This way, we ensure that all residents of Jerusalem feel safe walking around the city at all hours.

Support for Families with Children with Special Needs

We will provide personalized support for families with children with special needs. As part of this, we will install communication boards in gardens for children with communication problems; train and incentivize aides for children with learning disabilities; strengthen the transport and escort system for children with special needs and supervise it; and invest in the integration of children with special needs in regular education.

Support for Families in Hardship

We will strengthen the municipal welfare system by improving salary conditions, empowering the number of positions, and expanding professional training - so that it can optimally support families in hardship, the homeless, individuals struggling with addictions, at-risk youth, elderly citizens struggling to make ends meet, and other at-risk populations.

Senior Citizens: Jerusalem's Golden Age

HitOrerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including the senior citizens, the golden agers, and the city's veteran generation. The experience that the city's senior citizens can bring is invaluable. Maintaining their quality of life and providing appropriate responses to their needs are critical to keeping Jerusalem a multi-generational and family-friendly city, where generations live side by side: "Yet again old men and women will sit in the streets of Jerusalem, each with their cane in hand because of their age וזקנים וזקנות ברחובות" (Zechariah). עוד ישבו זקנים וזקנות ברחובות ואיש משענתו בידו מרוב ימים -

Experience Required

We will encourage the integration of the golden age population into neighborhood and urban communities through expanding the employment of retirees with a symbolic wage or through volunteering in urban systems in areas of education, tourism, community gardening, and more. We will expand the activities of employment and placement centers for senior citizens, in cooperation with government offices and the third sector. In addition, we will activate projects that create collaborations between educational institutions and institutions for senior citizens, integrating retired volunteers into the urban education system as assistants, substitute teachers, and personal tutors for struggling students.

Multi-generational and Multi-cultural Jerusalem

We will encourage cultural institutions to offer activities and special benefits for the senior citizen population, making them accessible to those with limited mobility; see more on this in the full platform chapter on special needs. We will increase the budget for digital literacy projects for the third age, making them accessible to all who need them without participation costs. We will focus on assisting the older population in adapting to technological changes affecting the city's developing public transportation and open it with attention to the needs of this population.

Listening to the Field

We will conduct focus groups and quality control on the services received by the golden age in Jerusalem. Decisions on how to improve services will be made in public collaboration, and we will strengthen the city's "Senior Citizens' Council". In addition, we will make the rights, services, and responses provided by the municipality to the golden age accessible in formats suited to this population. This includes developing new means that allow for a broad response and proactive approach to the golden age population with relevant information and assistance.

Health and Welfare

We will assist senior citizens in representing their interests against the national health and welfare systems and promote extensive governmental investment in the city in these areas. We will activate urban projects to prevent loneliness among senior citizens living alone, ensuring dignified housing and nutritious food. We will plan the city using the "inclusive planning" principle, allowing the elderly population to be fully integrated into the community and society.

Everyone's Jerusalem

- Gender equality: 50% of the city deserves equal treatment
- Immigrants: It is easy to immigrate to Jerusalem
- The LGBT community: Jerusalem pride
- Special needs: a city accessible to residents with special needs
- Mental Health: A City That Fully Integrates those with Mental Health Struggles

Gender Equality: Equal Treatment for 50% of the City

HitOrerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including women: secular, traditional, religious, ultra-Orthodox, and Arab. They make up 50% of the city's population but do not receive 50% of the rights. Equality is a basic right. The defacement of signs, segregation on buses, and absence from leadership positions is a reality that cannot be accepted: "Women belong in all places where decisions are being made" (Ruth Bader Ginsburg).

For Every Defacement - Five New Signs Will Be Hung

The phenomenon of defacing signs featuring women in Jerusalem has escalated to the point where it's not a question of if but when a sign featuring a woman will be defaced. This has no relation to attire or location across the city - it is violence and an attack against women's place in the public sphere. This cannot be tolerated in Jerusalem. We demand the municipality to sharply condemn all sign defacements, and for every defaced sign, five new signs featuring women will be hung from the city's budget. We will emphasize dealing with offenders, expanding the installation of cameras in places with repeated defacements, and publicize the number of arrests made by the police. Concurrently, we will double the number of inspectors and municipal police specifically addressing this issue, to conduct proactive patrols to deter and increase visibility in the field.

Leading Women - Not Just a Slogan

Among the city council members, women are a minority, but not only there. The gender gap continues with a minority of women in senior positions in the municipality and municipal companies. When women are not present in the public sphere and decision-making centers - they are not taken into account, and they are not counted. Their voices are not heard, and their needs cannot be adequately met. We will launch the "Equal City - Equal Municipality" program, which will turn the municipality into a gender-sensitive employer through training for service providers and set a goal of 50 percent women in senior positions in the municipality and its branches within three years. To grow the next generation of leading women in Jerusalem, we will increase budgets for leadership programs for young women and women in Jerusalem.

Illuminating Jerusalem - Personal Security for All Women

Gender violence and fear shape the lives of Jerusalem's women - from teenagers to the elderly. We will act against this in cooperation between all municipal institutions and the urban police, enforcing strict measures against perpetrators. To combat this, we will map dark spots in Jerusalem's streets and ensure street lighting is installed in them, creating security for nighttime walks. We will ensure full cellular reception in municipal parking lots and train public transportation drivers on handling gender violence on public transport. We will hold campaigns to raise public awareness in Jerusalem against gender violence and fund through the Ministry of Education expansive lessons in schools on gender equality and violence prevention.

Segregation Is Exclusion

We will enforce, uncompromisingly, the prohibition on the segregation of women or their relegation to the back in the city's streets and public transport. We will require events funded by the municipality for the general public to include both men and women in key roles on stage, prohibit gender segregation that is not voluntary

and only done at the women's own choice during the event, not pre-planned. We will strive for equality in the number of women as well as in the decorations the municipality awards, and in choosing the names of men and women for whom institutions, streets, and sites are named.

Equality in Education, Employment, Transportation, Sports, and Culture

We will launch the "Equality Index" for Jerusalem, broadly measuring gender equality in the city, using public participation, surveys, research institutes, and focus groups. We will publish the data annually in areas such as education, employment, transportation, sports, and culture. Through the index, we will target training programs on gender-sensitive service provision, balanced budgets with a gender perspective, and create an equal environment. We will promote businesses, events, and initiatives owned by women and incentivize all institutions and suppliers with which the municipality contracts to implement a plan to encourage gender equality in their domain.

Olim: Making it Easy to Make Aliyah to Jerusalem

Hitorerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including new Olim, veteran immigrants, and non-Hebrew speaking residents; today, immigrants constitute about 13% of the city's Jewish population and play a significant part in the working population. Jerusalem must fully integrate immigrants and optimally express their aspirations and needs. "Thousands of exiles from the ends of the earth, look up to you – אלפי גולים מקצות כל תבל נושאים – אליך עיניים" (Avigdor Hameiri).

Easing Bureaucracy for Olim, Making Municipal Information Accessible, and Providing Multilingual Phone Support

We will ensure that essential municipal information on the municipality's website, social networks, and other urban centers is also written in languages common among immigrant communities in Jerusalem, including English, Arabic, Russian, French, Spanish, and Amharic. In addition, we will ensure that representatives who speak these common languages are available at the city's call centers to handle immigrant inquiries.

Integrating Olim into Employment

The greatest challenge for new olim in Jerusalem might be integrating into the job market, especially in a city where finding rewarding and quality employment opportunities that match the education and experience of olim can be challenging. We will make the integration into quality employment a central goal of the municipality's policy towards immigrants, improve the employment coordinators' arrangement to be tailored for immigrants, and collaborate with companies, academia, hospitals, civil society, and the Jerusalem Employment Bureau to "match" relevant job vacancies with olim and ensure their placement. Additionally, we will cooperate with Jerusalem companies to promote the recruitment of workers from the olim community, leveraging their language advantages. Where necessary, we will connect olim with relevant training programs for employment integration.

Supporting Community Initiatives by New Immigrants

We will assist the immigrant community in creating community activities around educational institutions, synagogues, community gardens, neighborhood cafes, etc. Despite immigrants' desire to initiate such activities, there is often a feeling that there is no address for support for these initiatives. Therefore, we will allocate a dedicated budget to support community initiatives by olim and create an accessible municipal center that will provide answers, in relevant languages, to olim's initiatives.

Commemorating the Culture of Olim Communities

We will commemorate the diverse heritage of new immigrants through active recognition of it. Thus, the municipality will recognize days and holidays important to immigrants (e.g., Thanksgiving for olim from the USA and Canada, Novy God for olim from the former Soviet Union countries, and Sigd for Ethiopian olim), organize events that commemorate their significance to the immigrant community, and be attentive to residents' initiatives to commemorate their heritage.

Initiated Contact by the Municipality with New Olim

We will establish a mechanism where the municipality maintains continuous contact with new olim for



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five years after their arrival in the city. They will receive a phone call in their language from municipality representatives every three months, alongside invitations to special events organized by the municipality. In these calls and events, olim will receive answers to questions and tools to cope with integration challenges. Dedicated municipal representatives will also be available at other times.

Facilitating Integration into the Education System

A significant challenge for olim's children is integrating into the education systems. We will ease the integration challenge into the education system through orientation days to help olim parents understand the education system, increase assistance for Hebrew language studies for olim children, and support community educational initiatives.

Quality Assistance for Full Hebrew Language Learning

We will support Hebrew language Ulpanim (intensive Hebrew language courses), tailor them to working people, and promote ongoing learning frameworks for Hebrew even after completing Ulpan. We will adapt them to the Hebrew required for success in employment and operate them in cooperation with workplaces where many olim work.

LGBTQ+ Community: Jerusalem Pride

Hitorerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including the hundred thousand members of the proud community within the city. Many come from conservative and religious communities and are at significant risk. Despite this, the municipality has shied away from providing proper support for the LGBTQ+ community over the years, creating a sense that the city is not an open and safe place for everyone. It can be different; one can be proud in Jerusalem. "עיר שהיא עושה כל ישראל חברים" (Talmud Yerushalmi).

Personal Security for Everyone - Zero Tolerance for Homophobia

We will require the municipality to broadly condemn acts of violence and homophobia whenever they occur, to find the perpetrators and bring them to justice, and to provide legal assistance to victims. We will install security cameras in places where homophobic violence has repeatedly occurred in Jerusalem. In addition, we will promote training for municipal policing and city service providers, especially in community administrations, including Orthodox Jewish and Arab employees, to better understand the city's proud community and its needs, including appointing LGBTQ+ trustees in educational institutions, higher education, and healthcare.

Education for Tolerance - Jerusalem Open to Everyone

We will introduce tolerance training regarding the proud community to Jerusalem schools by professional entities, for students and teachers, and to implement the Ministry of Education's policy on LGBTQ+ students and families in the city's schools. We demand the addition of an LGBTQ+ head position in the Educational Psychological Service and promote enhanced enforcement of the prohibition on referral to conversion therapies from the education system and/or conditioning the submission of matriculation exams and other services on "access to psychological treatment," as often happens today in Jerusalem, contrary to the law.

Welfare for All Populations

We will promote the establishment and funding of an emergency shelter for homeless young men and women from the proud community, ages 18-30, suitable for all Jerusalem's proud communities, especially for trans individuals and LGBTQ+ from the religious and Arab society. We will promote ongoing professional coordination between the city's welfare department and the LGBTQ+ organizations in the city, and work to add an Arabic-speaking LGBTQ+ social worker for East Jerusalem to the Open House.

Culture and Community - Proud Jerusalemites!

We demand that the Jerusalem Municipality fly the Pride flag along the entire route of the Jerusalem Pride Parade, as obligated by the Supreme Court's ruling, and send an official delegation from the municipality to the Pride Parade every year. We will allocate municipal support for the establishment of a new LGBTQ+ nightlife venue in downtown Jerusalem, primarily aimed at young people and students. In addition, we will work to allocate suitable meeting places for various LGBTQ+ groups in additional neighborhoods, with an emphasis also on Arab, religious, and ultra-Orthodox neighborhoods for residents of those neighborhoods, according to the required discretion. Finally, we will demand the allocation of a permanent, appropriately sized home for the Open House by the municipality and support the holding of cultural events and happenings for proud families in the city.

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Pride in the Municipality

We will establish the LGBTQ+ community portfolio in the city to serve as an address for community members' inquiries to the municipality. We will conduct a needs assessment of the Jerusalem LGBTQ+ community and establish a special municipal committee to address and coordinate efforts around LGBTQ+ community issues in Jerusalem emerging from this needs assessment. We will ensure that the Jerusalem Municipality collaborates with the national Pride Index and improves its current low ranking, will publish the services provided by the Open House for the LGBTQ+ community in Jerusalem on municipal channels and service centers, and push the municipality to purchase services from Jerusalem LGBTQ+ organizations and from the Open House in particular, as it does with other community administrations. Additionally, we will include the Jerusalem Municipality in the employer accompaniment program - so the municipality will be a respectful employer to LGBTQ+. Finally, we will create specific activities to assist in the placement of young LGBTQ+ individuals, especially transgender youth, through youth centers.

Special Needs: An Accessible City for Residents with Disabilities

"No man shall say to his fellow, 'The place is too narrow for me to stay in Jerusalem – ולא אמר אדם לחברו 'צר לי המקום שאלין בירושלים' (Pirkei Avot). Hitorerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including residents with disabilities, Jerusalemites who use wheelchairs, and those with vision, mobility, hearing, and speech difficulties. The population of people with disabilities is multi-generational and with diverse disabilities; in general, every person is a person with some disability, and some people's difficulties require special attention. As defined by the Equal Rights for People with Disabilities Law, it is necessary to protect the dignity and freedom of people with disabilities and to anchor their right to equal and active participation in society. Moreover, appropriate responses to their special needs should enable them to live their lives with maximum independence, privacy, employment, and dignity, fully realizing their rights and potential. However, in the current state in Jerusalem, people with disabilities are excluded and face physical, psychological, and perceptual barriers that prevent their integration and full realization of their abilities in society. Jerusalem must implement the above principles, reduce stigma, and shape its policy with full involvement of representatives from the community ("Nothing about us - without us").

Jerusalem Fully Accessible to Residents with Special Needs

We will demand and enforce full physical accessibility of public institutions and buildings, sidewalks, public transportation, parks, public gardens, and other public spaces in Jerusalem. These will be adapted for the entire public, ranging from parents with strollers, children with disabilities, the disabled, to elderly citizens with mobility difficulties. We will promote accessibility features such as paving that allows movement in wheelchairs and walkers, accessible restroom stalls, accessible street furniture (such as picnic tables), ramps, accessible trails, and prominent signage and Braille as needed. Additionally, we will strengthen enforcement against obstacles that reduce accessibility in public spaces, such as blocking sidewalks and passages, and ensure enforcement against improper use that affects disabled parking. Concurrently, we will create training for inspectors and additional municipal employees regarding accessibility and the challenges faced by people with disabilities in public spaces. Finally, in events organized by the municipality, explicit attention will be paid to the physical accessibility of the event.

Establishing an Accessibility Sensitivity Squad

We will establish the "Accessibility Sensitivity Squad". This squad will go into the field and assess the level of accessibility throughout Jerusalem, both in public institutions and businesses. This squad will create a "Friendliness Mark" and award businesses with the "Accessible Business Certificate" if they meet accessibility parameters and will initiate an ongoing awareness effort on the importance of making private institutions accessible as well. The squad will also enhance and publish on the city's website a municipal map of accessible places and institutions in the city. These places will receive promotion on a dedicated accessibility website that the municipality will advance.

Caring for Children with Special Needs

We will ensure that Jerusalem is accessible and inviting for children with special needs. In this framework, we will establish special accessible facilities for children with special needs in playgrounds throughout the city, enrich and strengthen the special education system and the transportation system for special education

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children, and improve the functioning of the aides' system, including medical aides and individuals escorting students of special and inclusive education. Additionally, we will enrich the municipality's programs and various clubs in the neighborhoods so that they are adapted for children with special needs in Jerusalem.

Accessibility in Service and Rights Utilization

We will work to establish a department and an inter-departmental team in the municipality with a dedicated call center for inquiries from residents with special needs on various issues, including guidance and referrals to other departments in a "one-stop-shop" style. This service will also be accessible through a dedicated telephone hotline and email.

Accessibility in Housing

In urban renewal projects promoted by the municipality, we will promote consideration for physical accessibility to the apartments of residents with special needs, such as in relation to building entrances, elevators, etc. Additionally, we will work to encourage programs for those eligible for public housing in Jerusalem for residents with disabilities, and work with the district committee to define a standard for the proportion of apartments allocated to them out of the public housing supply.

Mental Health: A City That Fully Integrates those with Mental Health Struggles

HitOrerut's Jerusalem belongs to everyone, including residents dealing with mental health issues and combat veterans. As part of this, efforts at the municipal level must be made to maximize the integration of individuals dealing with mental health issues into the community and municipal systems in Jerusalem, to improve the mental health system in the city, and to remove public stigma regarding mental health as a model for other cities: "For out of Zion shall go forth the law – כי מציון תצא תורה – (Isaiah).

Promoting Alternatives to Hospitalization and Institutions for Integrating People with Mental Health Issues into the Community

As part of the goal to integrate individuals with mental health issues into the communities in the city, we will promote for them alternatives to hospitalization in mental health institutions; currently, such alternatives are scarce in Jerusalem. Therefore, we will work on establishing halfway houses, day centers, and similar institutions in Jerusalem - in a manner that allows for maximum integration of individuals with mental health issues in the city and leveraging and empowering the civil society organizations working in the field. Additionally, we will strengthen the institutions for integrating individuals with mental health issues into the community, such as clubs and dedicated homes located within the city's neighborhoods. Moreover, we will promote places to provide tools to the community of individuals dealing with mental health issues, such as places for engagement in art and self-expression. Finally, we will ensure that within the various institutions across the city, individuals dealing with mental health issues receive support, so they are not alone on weekends and holidays.

Promoting Education and Awareness to Break the Stigma Surrounding Mental Health Struggles

In Jerusalem's educational institutions, we will promote classes, lectures, and discussion evenings aimed at reducing the stigma surrounding mental health issues among young ages and preparing teenagers for life in diverse communities, including the integration of individuals dealing with mental health issues. Additionally, we will promote events, supported by the municipality, to raise public awareness about the importance of integrating people dealing with mental health issues into the community and breaking stigmas. These events, for example, could include cultural events led by individuals dealing with mental health issues in various areas across the city (not only in mental health institutions) and public discussion circles.

Promoting Employment for People Dealing with Mental Health Issues in Public Institutions and the Private Sector

We will promote employment for individuals dealing with mental health issues in the municipality, municipal corporations, and other public institutions in Jerusalem, aiming to fully integrate them into employment in these institutions. Additionally, we will work to promote the employment of individuals dealing with mental health issues in the private sector, supporting companies and civil society organizations that help individuals dealing with mental health issues integrate into workplaces along with the rest of the city's residents.

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Full Integration of Individuals Dealing with Mental Health Issues in General Activities of the Municipality

We will promote the integration of activities for individuals dealing with mental health issues in systems and events in Jerusalem that are not exclusively aimed at individuals dealing with mental health issues. For example, we will strive for general activities to promote art and culture in Jerusalem to also involve artists and cultural figures from the community of individuals dealing with mental health issues, as well as activities to promote businesses - under conditions equal to artists and business owners who are not members of the community of individuals dealing with mental health issues.

Closing Gaps at the Municipal Level in the Mental Health System

Today, Israel faces a crisis in the mental health system and the treatment of combat veterans, including long waiting times for psychologists and psychiatrists, which can reach even a year. Although the challenge is within the national mental health system and must also be addressed at the governmental level, partial solutions - which are not perfect - can also be promoted at the municipal level, taking into account the current crisis at the national level. For example, treatments that can be promoted at the municipal level include music therapy, art therapy, drama therapy, video, and photography therapy, writing therapy, and supervised therapy by psychology students.

Caring for Children and Adolescents Dealing with Mental Health Issues and Communication Disorders

We will work to improve the municipal response to children dealing with mental health issues and communication disorders, including support for their families, investment in their optimal integration into the city's educational institutions, and the placement of communication boards in public kindergartens and playgrounds.



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