

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

COMPETITION FOR CONCEPTUAL URBAN AND ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN OF *INDEPENDENCE SQUARE* IN PODGORICA

Capital city Podgorica
Njegoševa 13, Podgorica
Crna Gora
www.podgorica.me

1. INTRODUCTION

The Competition announcement for conceptual urban and architectural design of Independence Square in Podgorica, which was published on July 10th 2020, determined the competition deadlines.

The textual part of the Competition announcement defined the deadline for submitting questions regarding the competition for August 15th 2020, by sending the questions to e-mail addresses of the competition reporters. It was also defines that all submitted questions and answers will be published at the website of the Capital city Podgorica.

Competition reporters received 55 questions within the set deadline.

2. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. ***What is the maximum border of the underground parking? Can we dig under the streets that will turn into pedestrian streets? If yes, how much meters we should keep distance from the buildings?***

The boundaries of the garage are not defined and it should be planned beneath the largest possible area of the square, taking into account the stability of the surrounding buildings.

2. ***Who owns the parking lot between the BEKO department and the skyscrapers designed by the architect Stanko Fabris?***

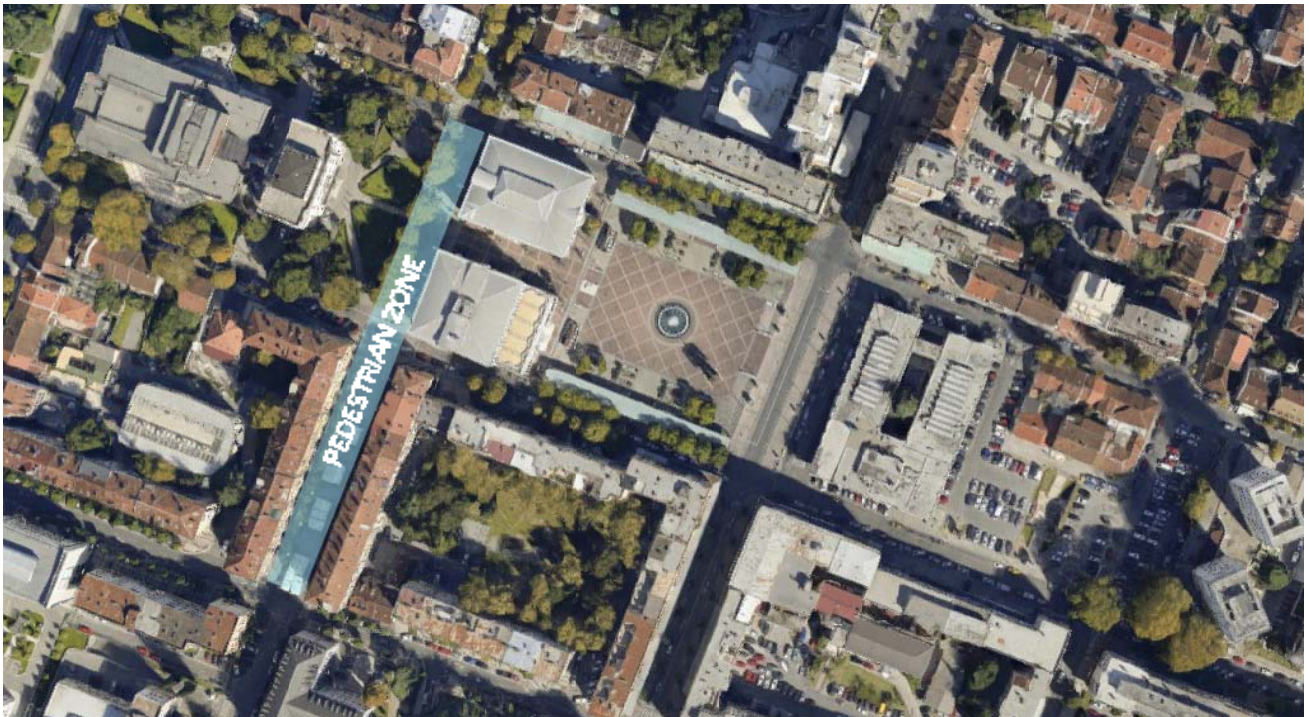
The parking space is owned by Capital city Podgorica.

3. ***What is the reason for the closing regime of the Slobode Street for the road traffic between 5pm and 5am?***

Considering that it is located in the very centre of the city, Slobode Street functions exclusively as a pedestrian street during the mentioned period.

4. ***Can you indicate on the overview map which part of Njegoševa Street is for pedestrian use?***

Between Vučedolska and Bokeška streets, Njegoševa Street is exclusively pedestrian. During the next period, the City plans to close for road traffic also the part of the street to the extent to Boulevard Ivana Crnojevića on the north.



5. ***Could you give us information on the number of inhabitants of the city area where the square gravitates?***

According to the 2011 Census, there are 11625 citizens living in the contact zones of the square.

6. ***What is the annual number of tourists in Podgorica?***

The average number of tourists in the last three years is 168000.

7. ***Will the disqualification factor be if the entrance / exit of the garage is dislocated out of the range?***

The positioning of the entrance / exit from the garage will not be disqualifying, and the Jury will evaluate the functionality and justification of the solution, as well as the rational use of space.

8. *Is pavilion construction on the square a disqualifying factor?*

It is possible to plan the construction and installation of temporary facilities on the square. The Jury will evaluate the functionality and justification of the solution, as well as the rational use of space.

9. *Considering that the competition is anonymous and that the material is submitted under an author's code, is the code given by the author himself, or do we gain the code from you once the material is submitted? The "Terms of Reference" states that each sheet should contain that code.*

The code is designed by the author himself.

10. *Is the competition opened for designers who are not architects, such as urban planners, landscape architects, spatial artists and other designers in general? What about students in architecture, urban design, urban planning and other design schools?*

The participation rights are defined in chapter 5 of the *Competition announcement*. There are no restrictions in terms of the professional qualifications of the participants.

11. *Within the Competition announcement, the intervention area is defined by the boundaries given in the graphic attachment. Is it possible to expand these borders and to which extent? We believe that the extension of the intervention area and consideration of the central square as a part of a wider context of the city centre would be justified from several aspects: spatial, functional, ecological and even economic.*

Document *Terms of Reference* defined the boundaries of the project that is the subject of the competition. The authors are given the possibility to offer additional content and expand the project within the conceptual design if they assess that it improves the fulfilment of the competition's criteria.

12. *The "Terms of reference" suggested the possibility of reconstructing the facades of the surrounding buildings. Even though we do not dispute that the reconstruction of the facades can achieve additional aesthetic and bioclimatic quality, we believe that due to the age, purpose, functionality and aesthetic characteristics of these buildings, there is a realistic reason for their replacement with new buildings in the near future. Is it allowed to plan this type of intervention, at least as variant solution?*

Document *Terms of Reference* anticipates the keeping of existing buildings that are surrounding the square, with the guideline that it is possible to propose the reconstruction, rehabilitation or refreshment of the facade fronts of the square. The authors are given the possibility to offer a variant solution if they assess that it improves the fulfilment of the competition's criteria.

- 13. *Within the competition documentation, it is specified that A0 format panels should be delivered, but it is not clear whether it is only one panel or there can be multiple panels.***

The number of A0 panels depends on the content of the conceptual design.

- 14. *Within the competition documentation in Montenegrin, it is stated that there should be 5 copies of the competition material. However, the English version stated that there should be 7 copies. Can you specify the definite number of copies needed to be sent?***

The number of copies is defined in relation to the number of jury members. Given that a technical error occurred during the announcement, the number of submitted copies will not be disqualifying.

- 15. *Could you please explain how to register for participating at the competition?***

Registration of participants is not necessary. All interested persons can download the competition documentation from the links www.podgorica.me and www.archdaily.com.

- 16. *Can you send a link to download the documentation?***

Textual part:

https://podgorica.me/storage/16015/5f329ddb10ff3_Tekstualna-dokumentacija---Textual-part.rar

Graphical part:

https://podgorica.me/storage/16016/5f329f1f71b00_Grafi%C4%8Dka-dokumentacija--Graphical-part.rar

- 17. *Within the competition documentation, it is stated that the graphic representation should be delivered in A0 panels and 7 copies of the project formatted in A3. Does this mean that we need to deliver one A0 copy on panel***

(not formatted, on a firm base), plus seven other copies formatted in A3? Or only 7 A0 format copies, folded in A3?

It is necessary to submit 7 copies of A3 notebooks, while the number of A0 panels is not defined and it depends on the content of the conceptual design.

18. *Can the CD contain a file with a video presentation the project?*

The *Competition announcement* defined the obligatory content of the conceptual design. The authors are free to submit additional documentation that they consider to present the concept in a good way.

19. *Does the term “table with gross and net surfaces”, mentioned on page 8 of the “Competition Announcement” refer to table with a summary of all the areas built in the proposal?*

Yes, it refers to all designed areas and facilities.

20. *How many A0 panels are allowed to present the project? Is the landscape format allowed? Can this material be delivered on a rigid panel or should it be folded for each A3 notebook of the project? Are there limits on the number of A3 pages? Can all topics be presented in landscape format?*

The number of A0 panels is not defined and it depends on the content of the conceptual design. A0 panels are delivered on laminated panels. The material can be presented in landscape format. The number of pages of the A3 notebook is not limited.

21. *Should each A3 notebook of the project contain a CD? If so, would there be 7 notebooks with CDs?*

Yes, each A3 notebook should contain a CD.

22. *How can I obtain the author’s code to put on the panels?*

The code is designed by the author himself.

- 23. *The document "Terms of Reference" in chapter 4.2, mentions the two buildings, National Library and City Parliament, which should not be interfered with. However, it is permitted to propose a redesign of the surrounding facades. I would like to know if the façade of these two buildings can also be changed.***

It is possible to propose the reconstruction, rehabilitation or refreshment of each facade front of the square.

- 24. *About the Duke Mirko Petrović monument, does it consist only of the obelisk or are the two buildings next to it also part of the monument?***

Monument to the Duke Mirko Petrović consists only of the obelisk.

- 25. *The documents mention the possibility of proposing new facades and requalification of the surrounding buildings. In the case of the building in front of the square (Vulcano) is it allowed to propose the use of the roof, for example, a green roof?***

Document *Terms of Reference* defined the subject of the competition. The authors are given the possibility to offer additional content within the conceptual design if they assess that it improves the fulfilment of the competition's criteria.

- 26. *The documents mention the possibility of building commercial facilities in the level 1 in the underground garage. I would like to know if it is possible to also build a space for a food court.***

The conceptual design may propose the organization of any commercial content, in accordance with the context of the central city zone.

- 27. *The documents mention that the winner candidate will receive the prize amount and accompany the execution of the project. I would like to know if there is also a contract and fee amounts for the winner.***

The subject of the competition is the development of a conceptual design. In accordance with the current Montenegrin legal regulations, the development of the main project according to the awarded conceptual design is the subject of another kind of open call. As indicated in chapter 16.1, following the adoption of jury's decision by distribution of awards and redemptions, property rights of author are vested in the Capital city Podgorica.

28. *When the garage is built, how many street parking lots in the nearby will be closed?*

Considering that it is planned to abolish the extensions of Vučedolska and Bokeška streets on the square, as well as to turn the remaining part of Vučedolska into a pedestrian street, about 60 surface parking lots will be abolished. Depending on the solution of accessing the underground garage, a part of the surface parking in Novaka Miloševa and Miljana Vukova streets will also be abolished.

29. *Can the boundaries of the garage be extended, for example to the Slobode Street?*

The boundaries of the garage are not defined and it should be planned beneath the largest possible area of the square, taking into account the stability of the surrounding buildings.

30. *How many entrances / exits are provided for the garage?*

In accordance with the current legal regulations, the number of required entrances / exits from the garage is determined depending on the number of parking lots provided (up to 100 parking lots – 1 entrance / exit with one lane, from 100 to 1000 parking lots – one entrance / exit with two lanes, over 1000 parking spaces – two entrances / exits with two lanes each).

31. *At what depth does the groundwater appear?*

In this city zone groundwater occurs at a depth of more than 4m. During the preparation of the documentation for developing the main project, detailed geological surveys will be conducted.

32. *If the -1 floor is purposed for shopping, what type of shopping is allowed?*

The conceptual design may propose the organization of any commercial content, in accordance with the context of the central city zone.

33. *Is it possible to build only a garage at -1 or/and at -2, without shopping facilities at -1?*

The traffic solution should include the design of underground garage (three levels), where level -1 can be optionally organized for business and commercial facilities.

- 34. *Who is the investor of square reconstruction on the roof of the garage and is the estimated cost of the square reconstruction known?***

The conceptual design should contain approximate investment estimation, in accordance with the Competition announcement. The model of realization of construction will be defined by the Capital city Podgorica.

- 35. *The “Terms of Reference” (chapter 3.4.1) states: “During the reconstruction of the square, the existing camphor seedlings can be relocated and preserved in whole.” Is it referred only to younger camphor seedlings on the square or also to the trees on the very border of the square?***

The trees on the border of the square must be preserved and kept in the existing positions.

- 36. *Is it possible that the project also includes the space of the atomic shelter behind TC Ražnatović (BEKO)? If the answer is no, could you provide additional documentation which includes the urban – architectural design of the atomic shelter? Considering all the mayor modifications of the square, we believe that the urbanization of this area is inevitable and that the better solution for this whole area would be a unique design, which is in tight connection with the project area.***

Document *Terms of Reference* defined the boundaries of the project that is the subject of the competition. The authors are given the possibility to offer additional content and expand the project within the conceptual design if they assess that it improves the fulfilment of the competition’s criteria.

- 37. *Is it possible to connect atomic shelter (-1 level) with the garage?***

Document *Terms of Reference* defined the boundaries of the project that is the subject of the competition. The authors are given the possibility to offer additional content and expand the project within the conceptual design if they assess that it improves the fulfilment of the competition’s criteria.

- 38. *Is it allowed to plan the renovation and revitalization of TC Ražnatović (BEKO), due to the already mentioned urban – technical changes that are required by the project task itself?***

Document *Terms of Reference* anticipates the keeping of existing buildings that are surrounding the square, with the guideline that it is possible to propose the reconstruction, rehabilitation or refreshment of the facade fronts of the square.

- 39. *Is the dislocation of the monument to the Duke Mirko Petrović allowed? We believe that it occupies an area that has the potential to become a high-frequency pedestrian zone and thus represents a barrier in the space.***

Document *Terms of Reference* anticipates the keeping of the monument to the Duke Mirko Petrović at the existing location. Authors are given the opportunity to suggest a variant solution.

- 40. *The question is related to more detailed guidelines regarding the manner of submitting conceptual design, i.e. since the competition is international, the analogue documentation must be sent by post. More specifically, does this mean that the complete analogue documentation must arrive by the date of submission, or it must be sent until the certain date, never minding the date of arrival? (Due to the current global pandemic, shipments rarely reach their destination on time.)***

The deadline for submitting conceptual design is October 30th 2020. If designs are to be delivered by post, postal note with the date of confirmation on the receipt shall be valid.

- 41. *What are the plans for BEKO department and Beograđanka department? According to the Detailed Urban Plan “Nova varoš” (plan of land use), the new facility is planned on the site of BEKO, atomic shelter and the parking lot behind, can it be and should it be taken into consideration for square’s extension? Similarly, is it desirable to take DUP into account as a guideline for traffic solution?***

The mentioned facilities are not the subject of the competition. Document *Terms of Reference* anticipates the keeping of existing buildings that are surrounding the square, with the guideline that it is possible to propose the reconstruction, rehabilitation or refreshment of the facade fronts of the square. Authors are given the opportunity to offer a variant solution if they assess that it improves the fulfilment of the competition’s criteria. DUP “Nova varoš” is not valid.

- 42. *Are Novaka Miloševa and Miljana Vukova streets only streets for accessing the underground garage? Can their current regime be changed (from one-way to two-way, as well as changing the direction?)***

According to the Terms of Reference, it is mandatory to plan the garage accesses (entrance/exit) from Novaka Miloševa and Miljana Vukova Streets. Since the plan of the city administration is to close the city centre for traffic, these streets will become pedestrian.

43. *Is Bokeška Street permanently turning into a pedestrian zone? What is the plan for Vučedolska Street, considering that its traffic character is losing its meaning?*

Both streets will be pedestrian, with defined regime for emergency and delivery vehicles.

44. *Which contact zones should be considered to connect with the square? How widely should the centre be observed while choosing those zones, specifically referring to Njegošev Park and Gorica Hill?*

The subject area should be observed in the context of urban public spaces and their logical connection into a single network of traffic flows and green corridors.

45. *Is it allowed to plan the commercial and business facilities on the square?*

It is possible to plan the construction and installation of temporary facilities on the square. The Jury will evaluate the functionality and justification of the solution, as well as the rational use of space.

46. *To what extent is the reconstruction / rehabilitation of the surrounding facade fronts possible?*

Reconstruction and rehabilitation of the surrounding facade fronts is not the subject of the competition, but the authors can optionally offer it in the conceptual design, to the extent that they estimate it presents the concept in a good way.

47. *Do we need to mark the elevations on the A0 panels if we mark them in the A3 notebook?*

The graphic presentation of A0 panels is left at the free will of the author.

48. *Should the scale on the A3 format be R/1:200 or is it possible to adjust it to that format?*

The Competition announcement requested graphic attachments in a certain scale that should provide a sufficient level of detail for a clear observance of the conceptual design. The authors are free to adjust the scale of the obligatory graphic attachments if they assess that the clarity of the presented idea is achieved.

49. *Can BSc architects, who do not have a licence, participate in the competition?*

The participation rights are defined in chapter 5 of the *Competition announcement*. There are no restrictions in terms of the professional qualifications of the participants.

50. *Clarification of the proposal that the increasing the economic profit through aesthetic-decorative effect of greenery should be taken into consideration?*

The quality of landscape architecture also has an impact on the economic potential of the space itself and the nearby surroundings.

51. *Is there an online registration that needs to be filled in order to participate in the competition?*

Registration of participants is not necessary. All interested persons can download the competition documentation from the links www.podgorica.me and www.archdaily.com.

52. *Is it possible that the project is written in English only?*

In accordance with the Competition announcement, the competition is announced and conducted in Montenegrin and English language. The competition documentation can be submitted in English and Montenegrin (as well as cognates - Serbian, Bosnian and Croatian).

53. *If I win any of the prizes (1st, 2nd, 3rd), do I need to travel to another country to receive the prize?*

The prize is transferred to the bank account that is stated in the envelope "Author's information".

54. *Is it allowed that the garage is extended beneath Slobode Street?*

The boundaries of the garage are not defined and it should be planned beneath the largest possible area of the square, taking into account the stability of the surrounding buildings.

55. *Which are the boundaries of the underground garage?*

The boundaries of the garage are not defined and it should be planned beneath the largest possible area of the square, taking into account the stability of the surrounding buildings.