

'If I were the Mayor'

Tap Your İstanbulkart & Envision İstanbul!

'City Vision Polls; If I were the Mayor' is an interactive design installation that challenges everyone to generate urban visions for cities. During the İstanbul Design Biennial, Play the City will confront visitors with the metropolis' burning dilemmas and demand them to clarify their positions for İstanbul's transport, public green, water, energy, real estate, earthquake, food, shopping, density and self-building.

For this challenge we designed a format using **RFID technology** to record, visualize and evaluate user generated choices about an urban environment. Any 'İstanbullu' with an **İstanbulkart** can take part in the vision-making process by simply swiping his or her card on the preferred choices for İstanbul.

Based on the answers you give, 'If I were the Mayor' can also evaluate what type of mayor you would be. A **tree-hugging +modernist+elitist** mayor or a **gas-guzzling +pragmatist+populist one**? Find out what kind of mayor you would be!

In this way, 'If I were the Mayor' not only challenges the **monopoly of experts** on the vision making process of our urban environments, but also raises the question 'What if our **İstanbulkarts** card were used not only in buses or boats of İstanbul but also in knowledge **creating** and sharing for our **city**?'

Play the City's 'City Vision Polls; If I were the Mayor' is made possible by Stimuleringsfonds voor Architecture. Our knowledge partner in this project is TU Delft and Mediamatic.



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How does the installation work?

.Participants will make choices on **10** selected **urban themes** for Istanbul.
.Each theme offers **2** different choices to select, thus in total we have 20 choices.

.There are **20 RFID readers** for 20 possible choices for the question of what would you do if you were the mayor.

.Every 2 choices for the given 10 topics are printed on cloud-shaped pvc panels.
.Each panel will hold the **2 RFID** readers on their backsides, attached to a white umbrella of 120 cm in diameter.

.These **10 umbrellas** will be carried by our **team**. Every team member representing themes like transport, water food etc... will be **mixing in the crowd** and collecting as many answers as they can get registered to their RFID readers from the participants' Istanbulkarts.

.Participants can **generate their own profile** and receive their end result avatar buttons as soon as they get registered on our interactive cameras.

.We will have two such registration cameras. From these cameras it will be possible to **connect to Facebook or Twitter**.

.The participant can also choose to create a profile on our website **www.playthecity.nl/benbaskanolsam**

.These online cameras need to be connected to an internet cable for stability.

.Besides the 10 mobile umbrellas with 20 RFID readers and 2 online cameras, there will be 2 screens hanging in the Istanbul Modern Museum.

.First screen will display **bar graphs** as results of scenario choices.

.Second screen will be running a **twitterpool** of answers chosen by the participants with their Istanbulkarts.

