# **Special Issue**

# Environments of Belonging: How Built and Natural Spaces Shape Social Wellbeing in Urban Contexts

# Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue invites original research and critical reviews exploring how built and natural environments shape social wellbeing, with the aim of interrogating how diverse physical, social, and ecological spaces either facilitate or hinder social connection, belonging, and mental wellbeing. We welcome interdisciplinary work spanning the fields of urban planning, environmental psychology, public health, geography, sociology, and community development. We are especially interested in studies that examine mediating and moderating factors, such as perceived safety, mobility, biodiversity, accessibility, or cultural congruence, that explain or influence the relationships between place and social health. Submissions may focus on different geographic contexts, population groups, or theoretical frameworks, and mixed-methods, participatory, and communityengaged research approaches are particularly encouraged.

### **Guest Editor**

Dr. Kiffer G. Card

Faculty of Health Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada

#### Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 May 2026



an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.9 CiteScore 3.7



mdpi.com/si/249267

Urban Science
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
urbansci@mdpi.com

mdpi.com/journal/ urbansci





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# **About the Journal**

# Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Urban Science is a scholarly international journal which provides a platform for the exchange of theories, ideas, methods, analyses, and comparative studies of urban and regional development. It is a peer-reviewed, open access journal that publishes high quality original articles, theoretical essays, critical reviews, research notes, and shorter communications. Its broad definition of "science" includes both quantitative and qualitative methods of social, environmental, and spatial analysis. There is no restriction on the maximum length of the papers.

#### Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Luis Hernández-Callejo

Department of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering, University of Valladolid, Campus Duques de Soria, 42004 Soria, Spain

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