

# Urban furniture for residents' safety

In cities around the world, the issue of residents' safety has become one of the key urban challenges. With the rapid growth of the population living in urban areas, ensuring a safe and friendly environment has become a priority for local authorities and urban planners. One of the innovative and increasingly popular approaches to improving urban safety is the use of modern solutions in the form of designer urban furniture.

In this article, we will focus on the role of urban furniture in improving the safety of residents. We will learn about the variety of available solutions and their impact on urban space and social life. Also, we will look at examples of cities that have brought innovative urban furniture and noticed positive effects in improving public safety.







## **The role of urban furniture in improving public safety**

Street furniture is a significant urban element, and its functionality, aesthetics and strategic placement can affect the quality of residents' life and the safety of public spaces. First of all, urban furniture, such as properly placed benches, bicycle racks or pergolas, create attractive, functional and friendly places for meetings, rest and recreation for residents. Open and friendly public spaces that provide the opportunity to spend time outdoors encourage greater social activity and participation in the life of the city. The more people use such spaces, the greater the social control, which reduces the possibility of criminal incidents.

Secondly, properly designed urban furniture can act as barriers and obstacles that make it more difficult for



potential criminals to engage in undesirable activities, such as vandalism, theft or destruction of property. In addition, properly placed streetlights and lighting around street furniture improve the illumination of public spaces, which in turn deters potential offenders.



Thirdly, urban furniture plays a key role in shaping the identity of a local community. Their unique design and thoughtful location can attract tourists and residents, making public spaces more open and welcoming, which affects the sense of community and social ties. Strengthening the bonds to a place results in increased involvement of residents when it comes to caring for the safety of their surroundings.

In conclusion, urban furniture brings many benefits to public safety. It provides meeting and recreation areas that foster a greater presence of residents in public spaces, leading to more significant social control and reduced risk of crime. Its proper design as barriers and lighting elements also has the effect of reducing potential threats. At the same time, street



furniture has the power to shape a city's identity and encourage the community to actively participate in its life. Therefore, developing and investing in innovative and functional urban furniture is a key component of an effective strategy to improve safety and quality of life in the city.

## **Innovative street furniture – modern solutions for cities**

Innovative street furniture is now a key part of urban development, integrating modern technology with functionality and aesthetics. Terra Group, a leader in the field of city furniture design and manufacturing, stands out for its innovative approach, offering unique solutions that perfectly fit the requirements of today's urban communities.



# Functionality versus aesthetics – key factors in urban furniture design

Functionality and aesthetics are two key factors that inevitably interact in the process of designing urban furniture. The right combination of these elements is not only important for meeting the practical needs of users, but also has a huge impact on the perception of public spaces by residents and tourists.

Above all, the functionality of urban furniture plays a key role in ensuring convenience and usability. Street furniture should fulfill specific tasks, such as enabling seating, relaxation, storage or waste segregation. The choice of appropriate materials and design must take into account resistance to weather conditions, intensive use and ease of maintenance. In addition, city furniture can also be equipped with additional features, such as USB chargers, Wi-Fi internet access points or photovoltaic panels, which increases its usability.



On the other hand, the aesthetics of urban furniture play an important role in creating friendly and attractive public spaces. Innovative and aesthetic design can encourage residents to use the furniture and influence the positive perception of urban space. Aesthetic street furniture adds charm and character to an area, and its carefully selected design can complement a city's architecture, emphasizing its identity and style.

It is also important that the functionality and aesthetics of street furniture meet the needs and preferences of the local community. Including residents in the design process and consulting with them can lead to the development of furniture that really fulfil expectations of users, harmoniously blending in with the surrounding landscape. An important aspect is also the durability and quality of street furniture. Strong and solid furniture is more resistant to weather conditions and intensive use, resulting in longer life and lower maintenance costs.



# **Examples of transformed cities thanks to street furniture**





*Legnica, Poland*



*Dębno, Poland*



*Bielsko-Biała, Poland*





*Opole, Poland*







*Łabiszyn, Poland*