

ELECTION MANIFESTO

28 May 2023

Podem
Xàbia

También lo tienes en castellano/i en valencià: www.podemosxabia.es

INDEX

Introduction 3

Xàbia Breathes 3

Mobility 3

Environment 4

Xàbia Lives 5

Housing 5

Health 5

Feminism 5

Participation 5

Culture 6

Festivals and leisure 6

Youth 7

Xàbia Works 8

Old Town, Port, Arenal and urbanisations 8

Economy 8

Tourism 9

Introduction

Xàbia is a small, picturesque town. At the same time, its large geographical area and the huge influx of visitors during peak tourist season mean that it has some of the same characteristics and needs of much larger cities. To address these needs, it is necessary to implement urban solutions for some issues, while maintaining the charm and natural beauty of our town. This is the aim of the following proposals, which we will put into practice when we have not only a voice but also a vote in the government of our town.

Podem differentiates three ideas that we consider fundamental when developing our electoral programme, and these are Xàbia Breathes, Xàbia Lives and Xàbia Works. In the first group we will develop all those measures directly or indirectly related to the environment, in the second group we will take into account all those actions related to housing and general welfare of citizens and in the last group we will consider those proposals aimed at optimizing everything related to the working environment. These three areas can never be considered separately, because they are intertwined, they mutually feed back and jointly form this living organism that is our beloved Xàbia.

This electoral programme is the result of contributions from our activists, but also of street surveys and online surveys. We would like to thank all the people of Xàbia for their collaboration.

Xàbia Breathes

This section will develop the programme's proposals in relation to environmental care.

Mobility

As in every city, transport is one of the main causes of pollution and one where we can act more effectively and caringly. Our proposal includes:

- Optimisation of the current urban transport system (Sunday service, waiting time indicators, discount vouchers, etc.) with a project to municipalise the service.
- Night buses for young people (to and from nightlife venues, flexible routes).
- Installation of a network of electric buses (minimum 3), with complementary and more frequent routes. To achieve a vehicle fleet that does not generate CO2.
- Traffic calming, promoting Xàbia as a 'slow city', an increasingly popular tourist attraction.
- Optimisation of existing parking areas, with clearer and more visible signage.
- Establish an electric bicycle network.
- Functional cycle lane network. This involves the extension, connection and reform of existing lanes, as well as the creation of inter-urban cycle paths.
- Demand the extension of the railway network and the bus to Gata coordinated with the train; also aim for useful public transport to the surrounding villages, especially at peak hours, to avoid traffic jams.

Environment

Other measures to consider for the care and preservation of our environment are:

- Review of urbanisable areas to avoid speculation and massive construction on our coastline with possible temporary suspension of licences for new construction.
- Tertiary treatment at the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to avoid possible contamination and to use the water for irrigation.
- Solution of wet wipe contamination with a stormwater tank and other measures as advised by experts (e.g. separation of wastewater from stormwater).
- Protection of green spaces, e.g. the Gorgos River as a greenway for leisure, sport and connection of villages.
- Obtain a fleet of mobile shredders to avoid burning waste.
- Solve problems of noise pollution due to cobblestones in many streets of the historic centre.
- Installation of special garden waste collection containers and the construction of a biomass plant on the industrial estate, which will generate electricity for municipal use and produce useful heat energy for purposes yet to be studied. This plant would also solve the problem of fires in landfills.
- Reactivate, update and fulfil the objectives of the PACES (Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy).
- Design an Environmental Training Programme in schools, including the creation of school gardens, and showing sustainable alternatives in mobility and waste management.
- Reforest our municipality, parks and gardens with autochthonous species.
- Increase the protection of the arboreal heritage and carry out pruning and treatments with ecological criteria that care for biodiversity.
- Municipal livestock (sheep and goats) for the cleaning of open fields and woodland and the production of km 0 dairy products.
- Awareness campaigns about smoking on beaches and cigarette butt litter. In the case of the Port and Arenal, the cigarette butts go directly to the beaches and the sea. Benefit establishments that help to raise awareness among their customers or collaborate by placing ashtrays at the door.

Xàbia Lives

This section lists proposals related to housing and welfare. Areas such as housing, feminism, culture and youth will be considered.

Housing

Housing is one of the problems most highlighted by our citizens. Because of the difficulty of accessing affordable housing, we propose:

- Introduce differentiated IBI brackets between habitual residences and empty or tourist rental residences.
- Creation of a public housing stock and promotion of the construction of affordable housing, especially for young people and low-income families.
- Promote the refurbishment and use of existing housing as opposed to new construction and expedite the relevant permits.
- Promote and publicise PROHA (Xàbia's municipal housing service) as a mediating agent between landlords and potential tenants.

Health, Services and Social Protection

- Promote a collaboration agreement with the Conselleria de Sanidad to create a diagnostic imaging service in the Health Centre.
- Combat energy poverty (see also 'Economy' section).
- Maintain the aid and social cohesion programmes that are working well, such as 'Radars' (for the elderly), 'Menjar a Casa' and other Social Services programmes.

Feminism

Bearing in mind that gender-based violence is a growing problem in our society, we cannot fail to consider it in our programme as a fundamental part of the wellbeing of our population and we consider it very important to implement, in addition to the already existing aid:

- A network of safe houses.
- The creation of a WhatsApp group: *Eixim Junttes* (group constituted by women and for women who want or need to develop a safe social life. Administered by the City Council and promoting its use.
- Creation of a municipal protocol for action in the event of an aggression in a leisure space, bar, discotheque, etc., and in all popular festivals.
- Mandatory women's aid points at every festival.

Participation

- Popular consultations on public policies.
- Regulate and implement a participatory budgeting process.
- To be accountable for the implementation of this electoral programme.

- Adaptation of the Town Hall staff to the service and management needs of Xàbia (police, maintenance, administration, public attention, digitalisation, financing).
- Together with the City Council budgets for 2024 we will present our Government Programme, with measurable performance and result indicators. Periodically (at least once a year) we will present an assessment of these indicators and adjust the programme based on this assessment.
- We will train expert staff in co-financing and public-private partnerships in the administration.
- We will seek public-private partnerships to improve the financing of municipal investments.
- We will monitor service contracts, e.g. waste collection, through quality indicators. Non-compliance will be associated with financial penalties.

Culture

Our group considers cultural development as highly important for the development and well-being of a society, which is why we believe the following are essential:

- The creation of a Music School.
- The creation of a cultural initiative fund.
- Cultural activities that promote mutual understanding and acceptance of the different cultures that coexist in Xàbia.
- Turn the Consell de Cultura into a governing body

Festivals and leisure

The development of festive and leisure activities can be a superb opportunity to involve citizens:

- Increase citizen participation in the organisation and selection of themes for festivals.
- Promote the development of leisure activities for weekends and holidays in different areas of Jávea focused on all ages.
- Offer alternative leisure activities to Bous al Carrer or a la Mar.
- Allow access to sports facilities so that users do not have to jump over the fence.
- Install sports courts and ping pong tables in Cabo de la Nao and the urbanisations to prevent, for example, minors having to travel to urban centres to play sport.

Youth

Young people are a fundamental part of our society because they are the future and we believe it is of vital importance to support them in their socio-cultural development.

- Promote decent work, as detailed in the 'Economy' section.
- Job counselling for young people with the aim of reducing the number of "junk" contracts.
- Lower the price of rentals by providing incentives for renting for permanent housing and, above all, creating a public housing stock.
- Set up an enclosed space, such as a self-managed youth centre/pub that allows young people under the age of 18 to have a place to meet their friends.
- Establish a municipal service of information, resources and help for LGBTBIQ+ people coordinated with public and private educational centres to provide effective solutions to cases of homophobia and transphobia that may occur in the municipality.
- Provide financial support for university transport.
- Have a team of municipal technicians capable of attracting European and other aid aimed at promoting work for young people.
- Create communication channels for young people, managed by the City Council and promoting their use among users.

Xàbia Works

Most jobs are low-skilled, seasonal and in precarious working conditions. Our young people are crying out for employment and development opportunities. To provide them with these opportunities, we focus on the following areas:

Old Town, Arenal, Port and urbanisations

All the proposals set out below are aimed at reactivating economic activity in the Old Town, Arenal and Port, with its shops and neighbourhood streets, and improving infrastructure in the urbanisations:

- 100% use of parking: allow short-term parking in designated parking areas.
- Reduce the need for parking with an efficient public transport system.
- Incentivise the rental of empty homes.
- Revitalise the central market and the Arnauda Riu-Rau as commercial and cultural spaces and do the same with the fish market in the Port.
- Creation of children's playgrounds, comprehensive reform of the park in Jávea Park;
- Improve the appearance of wiring throughout the municipality.
- We will not eliminate IBI, but we WILL improve lighting, services and cleanliness, especially in the urbanisations.

Economy

Although we live in a prosperous city, too many citizens do not enjoy decent or stable working conditions, perhaps as a result of the mismanagement and abuse of our resources. To bring about an improvement in the situation, we need to:

- Remunicipalise services to save costs, eliminate intermediary companies and subcontractors, to provide and guarantee more stable and higher quality working conditions.
- Create a municipal employment exchange to cover basic municipal services, with special attention to care work (childcare, dependency, elderly, etc.), environmental protection and conservation, and with special attention to job seekers with functional diversity.
- Promote collaboration agreements between the city council and local companies for the training and subsequent job placement of the unemployed population.
- Promote the ethical management of supplies and the choice of responsible suppliers that generate local employment.
- De-seasonalise tourism by promoting activities related to sport, culture and agriculture.
- Encourage the creation of cooperatives for the use of land products. Disseminate the use and exploitation of different renewable energies as a viable economic activity.

- Create a contract quality label to distinguish the many companies that do provide favourable working conditions for their staff, so that consumers can choose between responsible and potentially exploitative companies.
- Promote UTEs (Temporary Joint Ventures) in major building work, which will introduce a coefficient of impact on the local economy, so that the union of small entrepreneurs will be able to bid for large contracts.
- Favour the production of renewable energy in eligible municipal facilities and in new municipal buildings.
- Promote self-consumption allotments and food gardens in plots, parks and gardens in the municipality with municipal infrastructures, co-managed with neighbourhood groups.
- Incorporation of an energy trading company.
- Promote the constitution of local energy communities involving neighbours, industries and businesses.
- Develop awareness-raising, training and dissemination actions in order to improve the knowledge and acceptance of self-consumption by the population.
- Significantly increase the legal reserve of green areas in the revision or elaboration of the PGOU (Plan General de Ordenación Urbana, which determines which areas are destined for which purposes, e.g. housing, sports facilities, etc.).
- Create the right conditions to attract ICT (Information and Communication Technology) companies;

Tourism

In order to achieve a good balance in our global economy, it is essential to have an impact on tourism, which is the driving force of this economy. We therefore propose:

- Analyse the distribution of tourist flat licences, regulate the number of licences downwards and distribute them throughout the municipality.
- Create and promote a network of routes (interurban network) for walking and cycling around Xàbia and La Marina, with rest kiosks at strategic points.
- Control of tourist rentals (IBI).
- De-seasonalise tourism by promoting activities related to sport, culture and agriculture.
- Introduction of an eco-tax per person per day to mitigate the negative effects of mass tourism.
- Encourage guided tours of the old town including tastings.

With this catalogue of measures we are sure that we can build a modern, exciting and inclusive Xàbia. A Xàbia that protects its environment, its traditions and its people. A Xàbia that breathes, lives and works better.

You will find all the information at: <https://www.podemosxabia.es/>
Contact us at podemxabia@gmail.com