

The Jerusalem Railway Park

# The Mesila

The Jerusalem Green Fund

Leila Haller And Raquel Shapiro



#### **Our Research Processes**

We asked different people of all ages walking on the mesila the following questions to get a better understanding of their experience on the mesila and ideas for possible improvements.



Where do you live?

Where are you headed?

What do you like to do on the mesila?

Do you remember life before the mesila?

Has the mesila improved your life? If so, How?

Do you know how the mesila came to be?

Do you participate in any community activities at the tachana rishona or on the mesila?

Can you think of other ways we can utilize the mesila to bring communities together?

#### Life Before The Park



Abandoned, muddy, overgrown, unpleasant, and unappealing



## The Mesila Today: an indispensable staple of the city

"Enjoy the shade, enjoy the quiet, enjoy the walk, not being in the rush of the street."

"I Like to bicycle, I like to exercise, I like to watch people and enjoy the sunshine."

"It encourages seeing people and being outside"

"I love the mesila. It's a huge improvement in our quality of life in the neighborhood"



"It's given an option for a lovely walk, otherwise there isn't really a place...for a nice long walk" "I actually live off of the mesila and it has enhanced my life"

"I honestly think it's perfect!"

"It's a lovely place. I love to meet new people"

"You would have never thought it would become something like this. The train station was very unique, but this is really special"



## **Bringing Communities together**

"I love the fact that it connects jewish and arab neighborhoods. You see everyone; jews, arabs, religious, non-religious, young kids and old people."

"Especially during corona, it was a great place to be. it was one of the best escapes."







#### **Possible Improvements**

Bodegas and pop-ups (opposite Tachana HaRishona)

weekly local farmers market

art displays

Art fair

Additional: garbage cans, recycling bins, seating areas

community gatherings (children's events, marathons, activism purposes)

lighting at night

Water fountains

Dog park

Request for people off the bike path (which is just for bikes) maybe signs



