

Time as a Resource

Phase 1

Streetscape, park and beginning of densification The transformation of Trädlyckevägen begins with the road construction and with the clearing of sites for densification. As works proceed in sections, empty lots will host temporary uses: workshops for participated design, mock ups, skating rings, container gardens, provisional viewing tower for citizen to overlook the work in progress. The piled soil excavated for construction can also be employed for some fun: an urban sky slope in winter, or a winding go-cart track in the summer! A temporary greenhouse/plant nursery will be grown on-site, for the additional planting needed in the park and for the ponds. Densification begins from the square and the market.



Phase 2 Mobility hubs

After the completion of a suitable road infrastructure, mobility hubs will be installed in key priority areas along the axis. The increased activity and density along Trädlyckevägen and its square immediately benefit of a capillary, shared, non-polluting, and space saving transportation. The hubs include micromobility, electric mobility with charging docks, and driverless bus stops. While this phase is primarily planned for serving the neighbourhood, the hubs could be included in the greater system of Varbeg, ensuring convenient transfers or wider catchment areas.

The Trädlyckevägen hubs also work as a testing exercise for residents' feedback on the system and on best locations.



Mobility Hubs

Phase 3

Completion of densification and of mobility network

The final stage of the proposal sees further densification in more peripheral areas of the neighbourhood. The sites identified for this purpose include vacant areas and more crucially the sites of parking lots and of one storey parking garages. In fact, the latter will be redundant and space consuming after the expansion of the alternative mobility network. New mobility hubs can be created amongst clusters of new residences. These likely only serve local groups of subscribers, to ensure continued availability. The size of vehicle parks must be appropriate to the new densities. At this point the recommendation and preferences identified by residents in Phase 2 can be implemented, and Phase 2 hubs more finely tuned.



The Participation

Zuiderdokken: from car parking to public park Location: Antwerp, Belgium Area: 64,000 sqm; Year: 2022; Timeframe: 1 year.

An independent intermediary enlisted by the city facilitated communications between citizens, planners, designers and administration. Different methodologies were tailored to each key moment of the process: mockups, temporary installations, incrementally changes in time line, etc.

Transparency was ensured at every project phase (competition phase or award of contract), and as well as for budgeting and funding applications.

The general consultation sequence over a year involved: 1) recognition of citizens' needs, 2) briefing design teams, 3) feedback of residents on the design, 4) jury assessment, 5) communication of results with residents.



Schlugasse: from car dominated to people friendly Location: Vienna, Austria Area: 450 sqm; Year: 2018; Time: 1.5 year.

The project aimed at better connecting a school with a public neighbouring park, and at the same time to create space for children's recess and for parents pick up. The co-production process involved pupils, teachers, parents and residents. The process was incremental and well suited to the decision-making pace.

Communications and updates made use of social media as well as the an on-site point of contact to make information accessible, and to collect opinions, comments, and reactions of users and citizens. The general consultation sequence over a year and a half involved: 1) discussions with stakeholders, 2) temporary design, 3) incorporate changes into the design, 4) realization.







Food Urbanism



Container Garden

Planting happens in pots, crates, or mobile plots, either fixed in one site, mobile through wheels, or just light enough to be moved with a forklift. Container gardens are ideal for hobbyists and beginners, tending to their patches individually or in groups.

A rainwater cistern for watering can be installed in a convenient accessible location. Mulching will help keep the soil moist and the planting in good aspect even when not immediately tended to. Companion planting is advised for pest control, pollination, and growth stimulation. This strategy is the ultimate pop-up community making device!

Restaurant Garden

Restaurants with 0 km and seasonal produce are a staple of healthy eating. This rooftop vegetable patch is the source of produce for the restaurant on the ground floor. It should be private and protected, however it could be accessible or visible through windows to restaurants patrons as well. The garden is grown by a professional and tended and harvested by kitchen's staff.

According to climatic needs, the garden could be covered in winter with a seasonal greenhouse. Alternatively, vegetable gardens specialized in herbs, aromatics, and mushrooms can be set indoors.

Therapeutic Garden

These gardens are excellent complements to the recovery process, for mental balance, for physical therapy, and for learning about medicinal herbs. Thus their use is more symbolic than alimentary, and the garden can serve as a recreational space, for visits, and for hospital staff meetings.

It needs to be managed by professional gardeners, while hospital staff and patients can help.

Design-wise, these can be set up in small patches near the hospital building. It is important to design these gardens for everyone's comfort of accessibility to those with motor disability.

Greenhouse Farm

Slightly larger scale producing can happen on the park's ground, subdivided into smaller greenhouses, or on a combination a rooftops. Yields can be directly marketed to local stores, supermarkets, restaurants or delivery subscription by residents.

These greenhouses are fully equipped with automated windows, temperature controlled environments, and irrigation. Growers must be professional only, but the park setting gives wider public visibility, making these learning facilities.