

## **RIPPLES IN THE WATER – RISØY (NO)**

“We believe that there are many ways of dealing with the issues at Risøy as potentials rather than problems. As a response we propose six conceptual layers as design strategies that can be adapted to short term and long-term actions. The conceptual layers should be considered as flexible ideas which can be implemented step-by-step and through experimental methods. Our aim is to provide a framework for negotiating future development of public spaces, infrastructure, buildings, and program in a way that intensify and increase the qualities of Risøy as a place to live, work and explore.”

### **6 CONCEPTUAL LAYERS**

#### **1 Commons**

Clarify the questions of pedestrian bridges by defining a vision for the future role of Smedasundet the most important recreational public space in the city. Identify and negotiate all private barriers in commons and reclaim them as public

#### **2 Grid**

Expansion of the the grid layout in captain Taussan’s regulation plan from 1856 to integrate all areas of Risøy within a common framework.

#### **3 Super block**

Introduction of hierarchy to streets and reorganize traffic so that John Risøens gate can be developed as a common neighbourhood garden and pedestrian street shared by opposing city blocks.

#### **4 Loop**

Establishing of a loop that provide access to waterfront, connect activities, is a discovery trip of historic sites and trigger interest for the industrial activity through view towers and cantilevering bridges.

#### **5 Hot spots**

Identification of centralities with potentials of creating ripple effects beyond Risøya. Municipality can stimulate preservation-through-reuse of privately owned historical buildings by integrating them in a strategic network of public investments.

#### **6 Mixed neighbourhoods**

Mapping of existing characters and potentials at Risøy that can give direction for developing neighbourhoods with a different mix of program, buildings, and public space.

## EARLY PHASE ACTIONS

The project proposes interventions at very different scales, from a collective kitchen garden to development of new neighbourhoods in the north and south end. As argued above these proposals must be regarded as flexible ideas in a time perspective of at least 50-100 years. By expanding the scope conflicts that seem impossible to challenge in a short perspective can be confronted with more visionary ideas and negotiated over time.

We cannot predict who will be the initiators of development, but to maximize the ripple effects of each intervention, whether it is small or large, there must be courage and will to experiment with forms of collaboration between local authority, private property owners, developers, and residents. As an example, we propose that the new foot bridge at should not be financed and built by the municipality as an independent project, but rather be planned as a strategic part in the realisation of a “preservation-through-reuse” project for the Kolbeinsen building complex. Another example could be negotiations of “exchanging plot ratio for burden” strategies with property owners in the process of expropriating the commons.

### Trial and failure

Given the constraints at Risøy many of the projects should be developed through an experimental approach of “trial and failing” starting with small steps that can inform implementation of more long-term projects. Below we have described some ideas for how early phase actions on some key projects in the proposal.

### Superblocks

- Test new traffic hierarchy for private and public transport in some weeks
- Allow street parking on both sidewalks and arrange Sundtgate as one way street
- Remove street parking from John Risøens gate and arrange an artist competition to do participatory workshops that paint all sidewalks and streets and launch a series outdoor event in the street. (Reference: Barcelona – Superblock model)
- Install in same period municipality install small containers for urban farming.
- Initiate housing corporation that can develop communal block as collective housing concept: (Reference: Helen og Hard – Vindmølleparken, Stavanger)
- Establish kitchen garden in communal block in collaboration between local organizations (Reference: Texasbyen kjøkkenhage – MiljøGilli)

### North side (including commercial housing project, accommodation for Aibel, tidal parks)

- Winner of European competition arrange workshop with Aibel, Karmsund Havn (Port Authority), interested developers, hotels and municipality to discuss future visions for the north side, models for integrating Aibel’s worker accommodation in a wholistic development project, strategies to deal with raising sea level.
- Create a dike as public park and beach at the north side to deal with raising sea level. The dike should be integrated in tidal parks as part of future development. (Reference: Rotterdam Climate Change Adaption Strategy)
- Haugesund should become member of “World Ports Sustainability Program” to take part of international network of port cities that exchange ideas on how to integrate industrial ports

in city centre development. (Other member cities in Scandinavia: Kristiansand, Helsinki, Göteborg, Stockholm)

- Create a small version of the tidal park with local school kids to see what plants will grow above and below sea.
- Do a collaboration project with Turistforeningen for temporary floating cabins in Krossen to make inhabitants aware of Risøy as a local nature destination.

### Loop

- Invite local artists to propose temporary projects that can identify and visualise the future loop.
- Do a collaboration project with Karmsund Folkemuseum to establish digital historical info points along the future loop
- Collaborate with Turistforeningen to arrange walks and outdoor events along the future loop.
- Arrange competition that commission young architects and carpenters to design and build floating sauna village. (Reference: Oslo Badstuforening)

### Footbridges

- Build temporary floating footbridges at all commons as part of festivals in Haugesund to find best positions of future bridges. (Reference: Christo – Walking on water at Lago Iseao)
- Borrow one of Aibel's barges, drive it into Smedasundet and throw a city party on it!!

### Mixed use parks

- Define as part of grid layout.
- Arrange a concert, flea market or circus at the parking lot.
- Invite local kids to paint one parking lot each as an action to spark ideas about what can be done.
- Build a centre for the future development of Risøy large enough to host workshops and containing a large work in progress physical model of Risøy. (Reference: SAMOA – SPL Ile de Nantes, France)
- Build neighbourhood workshops outside
- Municipality sponsor building of neighbour workshops and ateliers at parking lots.



## COMMUNAL BLOCK

The development of the communal block should be seen as a strategic opportunity to illustrate how the kvartalstruktur on Risøy can provide quality of housing and public spaces.

### Houses

The early 20th century buildings undoubtedly has antiquarian and storytelling value. As a reference the garden city areas from the early 20th century in cities like Bergen and Oslo are of the most sought after and expensive housing areas in Norway. We argue that they can attract families to Risøy. The houses should be preserved by giving them increase value as housing by allowing small interventions in the facades. As extending some window openings on the ground floor to allow for balcony doors, to allow for more windows in basement to upgrade these areas from simply being storage, and to consider allowing roof windows or arches towards the courtyard. This will allow for better contact with the gardens and create half private areas along the facades that serves as more nuanced transitions between public and private. This can also almost double the square meter fit for housing and give room for larger living units. More square meters also means more funds to upgrade the courtyard and the part of Jens Risøens gate witch passes outside of the communal block. We see the development of Jens Risøens gate as a step-by-step development which starts with part outside of the communal block and than spreads out on the island. To strenghten Jens Risøens gate, but also to save the houses best fit for housing for housing, we suggest to place the Ungdomshus on the corner towards Jens Risøens gate as shown in the siteplan.

### Courtyard

By developing the courtyard into a collective shared garden the communal block can be a showcase for all the other blocks on Risøya, which are dominated by, privatized unused outdoor areas closed in by large fences. To allow for this all parking is removed and placed as parallel parking in the surrounding streets.

Today's positioning of entrances from the courtyard ensures that people walks thourgh the space and can meet each other. To give people reasons to stay in the courtyard we argue that is should be developed with parsell hager. By renting out the use of some of the area you can ensure that it is beeing used and maintaned, and that it can serve as a meeting place.

