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## FAGERSTRAND VIEW

Beyond the city of the salt, the city of the wood, and the city of the oil, how does the development of Fagerstrand can be steered with innovative solutions to establish an efficient urban ecosystem? **HYGGE** outlines priorities and strategies to guide cohesive expansions, to sew a fragmented urbanization, and to reshape power relationship between humans and nature.

From being a fishermen's village to being a strategic centre for Norway's oil supply, subsequent economic drivers have fostered rapid urbanization expansions of Fagerstrand. Multiple economic models have imposed diverging urban forms, transportation modality, standard of livings as well as different public-private engagement mechanisms. Instead of an incremental and planned process, the last century expansions of the city resulted in a **fragmented** environment with important implications for the socio-economic ecosystem. The overlapping of industrial and urban forms has produced conflictual spaces and risks to represent a structural issue at the core of social and environmental injustices.

Despite the differences of the development models adopted by the territory, a common element can be identified, namely the **relationship** between **nature** and **growth**. As a reservoir of illimited resources, nature has been constantly exploited to the point at which it was economically productive. The history of land consumption, indeed, presents the evidence of how urban expansion was pursued to the expenses of the rich wood that covered Fagerstrand until a century ago. Thus, as passive elements shaped by human's hands, **biodiversity**, and more broadly all **ecological services** have been **fragmented**.

Seen from an alternative perspective, the territory of Fagerstrand – as it was a palimpsest - has accumulated a **rich architectural heritage** and has trained itself to

overcome the up-and-down trend of the market, always being able to reposition and reinventing itself. The end of the oil economy, in addition to the crisis represented by the COVID-19 pandemic, is an **opportunity** for Fagerstrand to **rethink** the metabolic structure of the city itself and its relationship with nature.

**HYGGE** wants to propose a vision to guide the development process **unlocking the potential of Fagerstrand given its strategic position in the region**, namely:

- **the Oslo Metropolitan Region.** A renewed sustainable and integrated mobility system will enhance the attractivity of Fagerstrand for tourists and commuters.
- **the ecological region of Nesodden and the Oslo fjord.** Proposing a new development paradigm, Fagerstrand will play a fundamental role as ecological bridge and biodiversity catalyst.
- **the network of social actors and private developers ready to contribute to the transformation of the city.** Thanks to the use of innovative tools, Fagerstrand will be an experimental hub of co-governance in which the public will enable, guide, and coordinate a network of stakeholders.

Aware of the potential role of Fagerstrand in its region, **HYGGE proposes a double scale approach.** On the one hand, the project highlights the importance of a territorial point of view. Only using a regional perspective, the project is able to envision possible and contextualised interventions integrating human, energy and material flows. On the other hand, in line with the territorial point of view, the project presents a vision for the possible development of the former harbour and the new city centre.

Due to uncertainty that public and private urban stakeholders have to face today, **the project proposes a set of flexible tools** that can be **used to explore and experiment** multiple possible implementation processes. Recent climate and social crisis, indeed, has confirmed the weakness of a solutionism approach and of static answers to urban issues. **The proposed vision**, therefore, is only **one** among others that can be negotiated and composed with the provided flexible and scalable tools by interested stakeholders.

## TWO PROJECT LINES

Overcome social and environmental issues raised with previous development models, the vision for Fagerstrand identified two priorities:

- **Re-sourcing natural resources, repositioning humans in the natural environment.**

In order to overcome social and environmental issues raised with previous development models, **HYGGE** identifies **two main pillars**. With an increasing awareness of the impacts that man has had on the environment and with a push towards achieving a more sustainable future, it is necessary to **rethink** the relationship between **man and nature**. In this regard, cities are called to the fore in taking up this challenge as they are the centers of human activities. Even the small, more **peripheral countries** acquire great relevance in this issue as they can be considered as the **junction points** between **man** and the **environment**.

**HYGGE** aims to reposition man in the natural environment towards what can be described as a **sympiotic and balanced relationship**. **Nature** is not seen only as a passive entity to be protected but relates to human activities in a dialectical relationship and becomes a **structuring component** of future development.

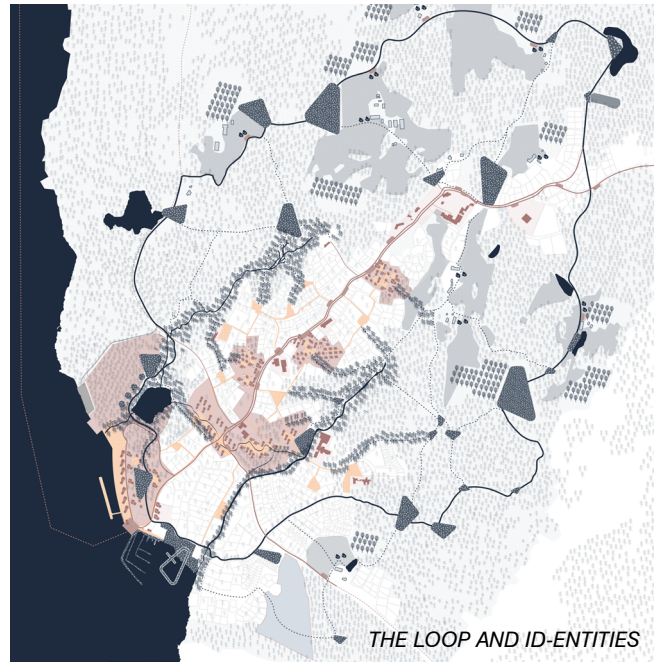
- **Fostering vibrant urban spaces and building a local identity by designing new ways of living within the city**

What Fagerstrand **lacks** nowadays is the presence of a coherent **urban form and identity**. The urbanization process occurred regardless the impacts on the environment and the kind of social life it promoted. As a result, the **role of public space has been marginalized** and so its values in support of social interaction, leisure and gathering. The resulted atomization of the urban development didn't build a clear urban identity and didn't promote social aggregation.

**HYGGE** wants to **reverse this approach** to urban development **by supporting the design** of vibrant urban spaces **as backbone of the future** social life in the city. The positive influence generated by the public

space improves the perception of the quality of life and the consequent physical and psychological wellbeing of people. Moreover, through a growing participation of users in the organisational and formal definition of it, the **public space** would become an arena in which **diversified uses and practices contribute to the growth of a local identity**.

These two priorities shape the implementation of two design systems: **THE LOOP** and **ID-ENTITIES**.



### 1. THE LOOP: RE-SOURCING NATURAL RESOURCES

#### Experiencing natural environment

Until recent years, nature has been used and exploited by means of human activities. The project provides a **different view** in which nature and people can coexist. By doing so, **HYGGE** proposes a wide system of accessibility in the nature based on a main path, **the loop, new kind of widespread hospitality and several trails that link urban, rural and new spaces for activities improving and enhancing the experience of the natural environment**. In this sense along the main path a series of **clearings and open spaces** are meant to make people experience the benefits of outdoor life through the entire year and giving to visitors a **deep experience** rooted in the tradition and in the territory of **Fagerstrand**. Within this vision, the farmers are stimulated by incentives to host visitors in their facilities, giving them the possibility to build new appropriate structures as “welcoming farms”, that in the time could be implemented in a new network of Agro-hospitality.

## Urban metabolism: implementing a circular economy

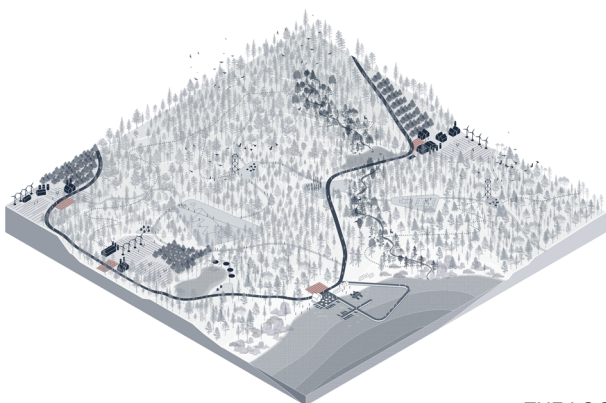
**HYGGE** doesn't crystallize the role of nature as a passive actor in the development of the project. Instead, **nature contributes** in the social and economic development of the city. Thus, **the project aims to accelerate and improve the metabolisms** of the city regarding flows of material and energy production.

Through a program of agroforestry, the goal is, on the one hand, to enhance the sustainability of the farming system. On the other, trees also produce a wide range of useful and marketable products from fruits to wood products that can **enhance farmer livelihoods** and **support the urban development** with local raw materials. Moreover, the project aims at the implementation of **community microgrid** in order **to adopt the most efficient model** regarding the consumption, production and management of energy in cities.

## Biodiver-City: benefiting from ecological services for sustainable development.

To exploit ecological services for a sustainable development. **The project recognizes the key role nature plays as producer of multiple benefits provided by ecosystems to mankind.** By doing so, **HYGGE** advocates for a new cycle of policies which protect **green corridors** along the main **natural axis**. The green corridors extend along two directions that connect the main elements that characterise the territory. The first one runs along the **sea-wood axis** following the course of the rivers. The second corridor originates in **the wood** and penetrates the built environment creating **a transversal ecosystemic connection** complementary to the first one.

Thus, the **restoration of river** and water bodies become a crucial part for the enhancement of the ecosystem services the nature provides. In this sense, it is central the choice of **maintaining indigenous species** of trees to preserve and **enhance the biodiversity**.



*THE LOOP  
Principles and materials*

## 2. ID-ENTITIES: FOSTERING VIBRANT URBAN SPACES

### Livign pockets network: designing active public spaces as social meeting places.

Since the first developments of **Fagerstrand**, the main urban model, through which the city has grown, has put at the center the **private property** and the **single-family detached houses**. Therefore, the public space played a marginal role and the form of the city emerged as scattered. The project, through a **new hierarchy** and recognizability of urban space, aims to give a proper identity at the city by the design of vibrant public spaces in which the **public life** could **flourish**. Those spaces will be designed as central figure of the new developments and also as opportunity to requalify interstitial spaces within the neighbourhoods. Moreover, it is asked to real estate developers to place particular care and **attention** to the design of the **ground floors** which can become space of interactions and **economic opportunity**. In this way, the **public spaces** play a **central role** in re-thinking the existing urban space and in the design of the new developments.

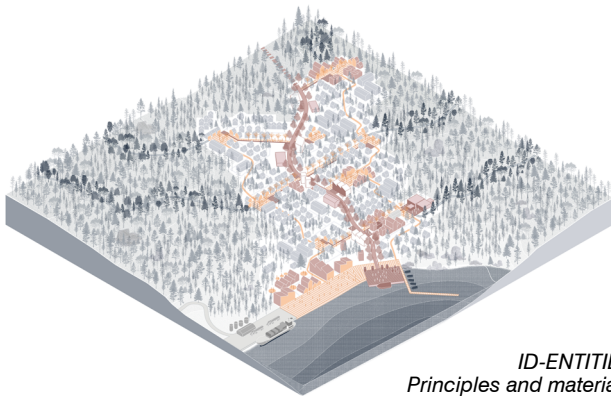
### New Urbanity: diversifying housing typologies

Given the presence of development areas yet to be built, the public administration finds itself at a crossroads between choosing traditional settlement forms or accepting the challenge by proposing new urban forms. Given the projection of the municipality of Nesodden to concentrate 35% of future development in Fagerstrand, **the project aims to experiment with new forms of settlement**. First of all, this would support the emergence of **new forms of sociality** that are currently limited by an atomized urban development. Furthermore, it can **stimulate** the growth of **new economic realities**. Finally, a new urban morphology opens up to diversify a predominantly homogeneous housing offer, in such a way as to be able to accommodate a wider range of households.

### Rød Arterie: Connecting services at multiple scales.

Stated the strategic role played by Fagerstrand in the Nesodden municipality, the **necessity** for a **renewed and sustainable mobility** system arises able to connect services at multiple scales. For the future, the project foresees an **increasingly frequent water transport by electric vessels** that connects the city with the rest of the fjord providing a new sustainable mobility system to connect **the city** with the metropolitan area of **Oslo**. Moreover, the project is rooted in the daily mobility of the people providing a new multimodal system of movement in which public transport and slow mobility are linked together. This solution **improves** the already present sustainable **mobility infrastructure**

by **widening** the network of **bike** lanes. Besides, it provides **new ways** to move in the nature and through the city like **e-Bike sharing** system and **Micro e-mobility Hubs**.



ID-ENTITIES  
Principles and materials

## FAGERSTRAND: A METABOLIC CITY

The use of the **metabolic metaphor** is not an original idea in **Urban Planning** and **Architecture**. However, a number of projects mobilize the concept with a normative approach. Technical tools and urban forms are designed to **regulate** the functioning of a **city** as similar as possible to an **organism**. Thus, while pretending to have a positive environmental impact, these projects locate the decision-making agency only in the hands of humans. Nature, or more concretely rural areas and woods, are conceived as an external reservoir of resources from which humans can draw on. Looking at the **metabolism of cities** with this approach, **nature** is idealised to the point that it becomes a **source** of inspiration for the design project, while not acquiring any role in the implementation.

**HYGGE** mobilises the metabolic concept with a disruptive approach for the tradition of Urban Planning. The project, indeed, conceives **no borders between nature and humans**, or between urban and rural area. One is at the service of the other. Moreover, the project does not assimilate Fagerstrand to a natural organism. Instead, the territory of Fagerstrand is practically conceived as a socio-economic and ecological ecosystem. **Nature is one element that has to be considered along with the social environment and the economic one.**

Operationalizing the renewed concept of urban metabolism, the project considers at least **three** kinds of **flows**:

**People.** According with regional plans, in future years Fagerstrand will host **new citizens**. Commuters from Oslo and seasonal tourists from the region will make Fagerstrand a dynamic city.

**Natural resources.** In between the **two ecological pillars** of Fagerstrand, namely the sea and the wood, there is a constellation of natural elements whose cycle is necessary for urban life. These are biodiversity, rivers, or simply pure air to name but a few.

**Economic resources.** The future attractiveness of Fagerstrand depends on its **capacity to stimulate** the creation of a creative and **dynamic environment** with innovative working opportunities and services.

**Being aware** of the **different flows** which compose Fagerstrand's metabolism, **HYGGE** works on their interactions. Instead of focusing on infrastructure, the project starts from understanding the necessary resources to reach a long-term sustainable future. The influx of **new citizens** and the seasonal arrival of tourists have to be prepared through the **implementation** of an integrated **mobility system** and the design of a stimulating **working and living environment**. The possibility of **experiencing nature** and of raising children in a **healthy** and ecologically rich environment is just one example of how **nature can provide benefits** for the city of Fagerstrand.

## ENABLING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, A VISION CONTRACT FOR FAGERSTRAND

As delineated before, the concept of **metabolism** is here used to describe the intersection between **human, economic** and **natural flows**. Only technical tools such as the construction of ecological corridors or the establishment of an energy communities cannot efficiently accelerate the metabolism of the city. A democratic governance model is fundamental in the transition process to coordinate a complex ecosystem. Beyond being unfeasible in terms of economic resources, a **welfarian and top-down approach is not recommended** for a city which seeks to design policies with a positive impact on its resource consumption. Indeed, the management of natural ecosystems is not centralised. They are **decentralised model** in which integrated elements work together balancing each other through feedback-loop mechanisms.

**HYGGE** proposes to achieve the **Fagerstrand long terms goals** adapting to the local context an innovative tool recently proposed by the European Commission, namely the **Climate City Contract (CCC)**. Originally imagined to help cities to reach climate neutrality, the CCC fosters a multi-level, co-creative process. Leveraging this tool, the municipality of Fagerstrand would **become enabler of a co-governed future**. It would **open a dialogue** with several public-private stakeholders **to co-create common visions** and eventually to set responsibilities. In other words, through a **holistic approach**, the Fagerstrand municipality would activate a synergetic environment enabled to co-govern **coherent** and **cohesive** developments.