

INTRO

Krøgenes is situated in a small valley by the ocean, surrounded by a picturesque landscape. Krøgenes marks four important traffic routes, making it a natural trading post for the inhabitants of the surrounding area. Krøgenes is located four km from the main city of Arendal, Tromøy bridge to the south marks the entry point to Raet National Park with its rich and diverse nature. Just to the north one will find the future Battery factory that will create 2500 new jobs and will attract up to 6500 new inhabitants to this area. The Battery factory is the kick starter for a transformed Krøgenes.

Krøgenes today is the city of asphalt. In the 1970s and forward the land was claimed and the natural habitat and biodiversity were demolished. The once small lake was filled up and sealed by asphalt. Today parking lots and big box buildings own the land. But time is changing. The establishment of a Battery factory provides new opportunities to change the typography of this city. 800 new dwellings as well as services and other programs to support them are emerging from the city of Krøgenes. This shift provides opportunities to restructure and recreate the nature that once was.

VISION

Krøgenes is the city of asphalt but in the future, it will become a blue and green peninsula. People can reside with vistas of the water and surrounding nature. Our vision is to plan a city that is not scattered, but a city that limits its footprint on the land. We believe in a city that creates a strong local community and economy. A city that coexists with nature, by the water. Nature is an important part of us. Our livelihoods and wellbeing depend on our surroundings. By recreating Krøgenes as a green city, it will change our perception of the place and it will become an attractive place to live and reside as well as a place where nature thrives.

CONCEPT

Krøgenes will become a peninsula with water as the defining edge of the city. Following the terrain and waters natural path we propose to recreate the lake that once were, to restore and nurture the biodiversity and the natural habitat that previously defined Krøgenes. The recreation of the lake will also define Krøgenes in a new way - as a Peninsula. The water will create an attractive place to live, where everyone gets a view of blue and green. The nature will resurrect, making Krøgenes a green-blue Peninsula. The city of asphalt becomes the city of nature. The asphalt is broken down and nature is given its habitat back. The man-made footprint will shrink, and the new city will only be built on already existing plateaus not occupying any more land. For too long, the tendency has been to occupy more and more land with scattered cities. The climate is changing, and this forces us to develop existing cities in a new way, denser, rather than sprawled. We wish to create cities that are inter-connected both physically and socially, cities that give space back to nature. Our goal is to create cities that nurture communities and slower mobility, cities that welcome nature as caregiver for our environment. We propose below 8 strategic tools that define the holistic approach for the transformation of Krøgenes.

01 The Care

We create a green peninsula by letting the natural landscape rise again. The old lake that was washed away by parking lots and big building plots is restored. The water's natural path from the mountains to the ocean happens via the lower area that today consists of parking lots. The lower point is struggling with the rainwater, so one could ask- why fight against the water's natural path? We propose to restore a natural basin, a Lake Meadow, creating a recreational and biodiverse attraction for both people and nature. We create a green loop that will make Krøgenes Peninsula a pedestrian and biking haven as well as a travel route for insects, fish, birds and animals to nurture and prosper. The main goal is to reimburse nature in Krøgenes. The natural growth of trees and bushes between the terrain is preserved.

02 The Natural Path

Today, stormwater gathers on the bottom of the hill by the parking lots and big box stores. By recreating the natural lake, we protect infrastructure and built environment from being flooded. Working with the water's natural path and recreating the lake prevents the establishment of a new drainage system. The Lake provides recreational and biodiverse value to the site. Krøgenes gets a new identity as a Peninsula making it more attractive to live and visit.

03 The Neighborhoods

We reuse the existing plateaus, instead of occupying more land. We use or reduce the already existing, so nature has a chance to regain its power. The plateaus define natural neighborhoods with their own qualities while a pedestrian loop creates accessibility between. By recreating the lake, the dwellings have views of water. The dwellings mime the Norwegian houses by twisting and turning to get the best views.

04 The Community

Our proposal enables a transformed Krøgenes with 800 new dwellings attached to community houses with communion kitchen, gym, shed, bike-share and other initiatives supported by the dwellings. This will create new meeting points between people across gender, culture, age and lifestyle. Krøgenes will consist of supermarkets in an urban setting along with, a school and daycare, offices, services, nursing home, health center, sports arena, playgrounds, merchant's market, bakery and many activities in and around water and nature. Everything is a part of a blue/green pedestrian route - The LOOP, creating a strong community in Krøgenes.

We propose an urban center condensed around the most accessible and highest plateau, a Bedriften District. Here one of the existing builds will be transformed to a Cultural HUB for the inhabitants. The HUB will be programmed with a local food market, stalls for merchants, coexisting local businesses and the existing job training center. The HUB is situated by the central square of Krøgenes. On the weekends the marketplace can move out to the square, alongside concerts, kids' event and so on. The transformed Krøgenes will also consist of a Health center, and a co-office where you can rent a desk or meeting rooms. On the other side of Tromøye bridge an existing building is transformed to The Battery Factory with a sports arena where tournaments, evening courses and school classes will

take place, creating a place of belonging and coexistence in the area. Krøgenes as a grocery destination will be preserved as 4 bigger supermarkets are being established within the urban center. Existing community businesses will still stand and evolve in the local community.

05 The Veins

We remove the big predominant parking lot currently working as the entrance of Krøgenes and recreate the lake, Lake Meadow, surrounded by nature. Parking is an important part of Krøgenes, but also the main struggle for Krøgenes as an urban center with beautiful natural qualities. The strategy builds on the existing infrastructure but removes the roundabout in the middle of the site to give the natural landscape space. A new entrance is added to the Lake Meadow and the existing roads are looped together to avoid dead ends. The proposal removes the big parking lot, but it creates a plinth with 230 new parking spaces. As Krøgenes becomes more densified, the site will behold a total of 1490 parking spaces which is an increase in the amount of parking spaces. The large amount of parking spaces are hidden in garages, on terrain or in plinths, constructed on the ground and thereby making it cheaper to establish. The new way of parking creates more space for living and nature.

06 Reuse - Reduce - Repurpose

We propose to use existing footprints and reduce where possible. New buildings are placed on already man-made terrain floors, not modeling more terrain, thereby reducing the footprint as much as possible. The big box stores are used as a foundation for parking lots with houses built on top. Existing buildings with potential are giving new purposes as social structures in the community.

07 Views for everyone!

By recreating the lake, Krøgenes becomes a Peninsula. The strategy is to mime the existing housing structure in the area. Buildings are placed to get the best views of water. The terrain makes it possible for all to get a view. The new dwellings move and twist to be a part of existing structures in the area and create views toward the water. The big boxes are transformed into downscaled builds creating a more whole and poetic picture of the area.

08 The LOOP

A green loop creates new accessibility for pedestrians and bicycles to explore the urban center and its surrounding landscape. The Loop interconnects the different neighborhoods creating Krøgenes as a whole. The bike lane by the main road is moved to follow the landscape instead of the big road making it more comfortable for soft mobility. The Loop connects Vindholmen and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Rebuilding Krøgenes - Step by Step

Krøgenes has many landowners which makes the site complex. One must, as much as possible, follow the landowners' needs. However, there is a great need for new dwellings and urban programs in Krøgenes as well as a need for a paradigm shift in how we build and coexist with nature. The proposal enables a transformed Krøgenes with 750-800 new homes, inclusive community areas, as well as

services and other programs to support them. Our approach is a holistic step-by-step transformation of Krøgenes divided into landowner parts and further inter-divided within each plot. This strategy makes it possible for the landowners to transform once they are ready. We have proposed an order of transformation, but as the project follows the existing roads and terrain plateaus the plan is robust to change in order. Recreating the lake is the biggest change for the site, however it is also the greatest strength to change the perception of Krøgenes. From a city of asphalt to a city amongst nature and water, Krøgenes Peninsula.

Krøgenes as a peninsula will create an increased economic value for the landowners, increase the livability for its inhabitants and visitors, and establish foundation for an increased biodiversity. The lake will make Krøgenes more climate resilient by following the landscapes natural path. The Lake reacts as a natural reservoir storing the water traveling down from the mountains, working more efficient and sustainable than the current solution with water ruining infrastructure and built environment.

The landowner for E1, B1 and B2 will undergo the biggest transformations. Their plots have the most asphalt and big box buildings and will in the future have a lake and dwellings on their plots. The grocery stores on plot E1 will be moved to the higher plateau, Bedriften District. E1 will get a new location for a supermarket on their plot. It is a substantial change of programs for the landowner at E1, but 120 new dwellings and a 2100 m² supermarket is a good business plan. For B1 and B2, 170 new dwellings are to be established. E1, B1 and B2 are depending on a cooperation to transform their plots and the lake that will unite them.

A Sustainable future for Krøgenes

The proposal works with sustainability in various aspects; material sustainability, a blue-green sustainability, a social sustainability, and an economic sustainability. *Blue-green sustainability* means recreating the natural landscape, giving space to nature to prosper. By tearing down asphalt, giving nature space to resurrect, we believe in a more sustainable Krøgenes. The goal is to restore and nurture the biodiversity and the natural habitat in Krøgenes. The blue-green landscape will become the connection in Krøgenes. *Material sustainability* is to reuse existing plateaus instead of modeling new terrain. The city's neighborhoods rise upon the existing foundation. The existing outlay of the infrastructure is kept. The old footprints of the big boxes are used as foundation for the parking plinth under the new dwellings. The existing asphalt on the big parking lot is reused to raise the promenade by the new Lake Meadow.

Krøgenes will become a part of Arendals culture of co-creation for a socially sustainable Krøgenes. Every new dwelling will be a part of a community house supporting 40-100 units. The Community house will contain a kitchen with communion space as well as shared bikes, a shared shed with tools and fishing gear and gym. There will also be possibilities for other programs depending on the inhabitants' needs for social interaction.

The many gathering points alongside the Culture HUB and The Battery factory will create a strong sense of belonging to a local community. A community where inhabitants and nature coexist and thrive.