

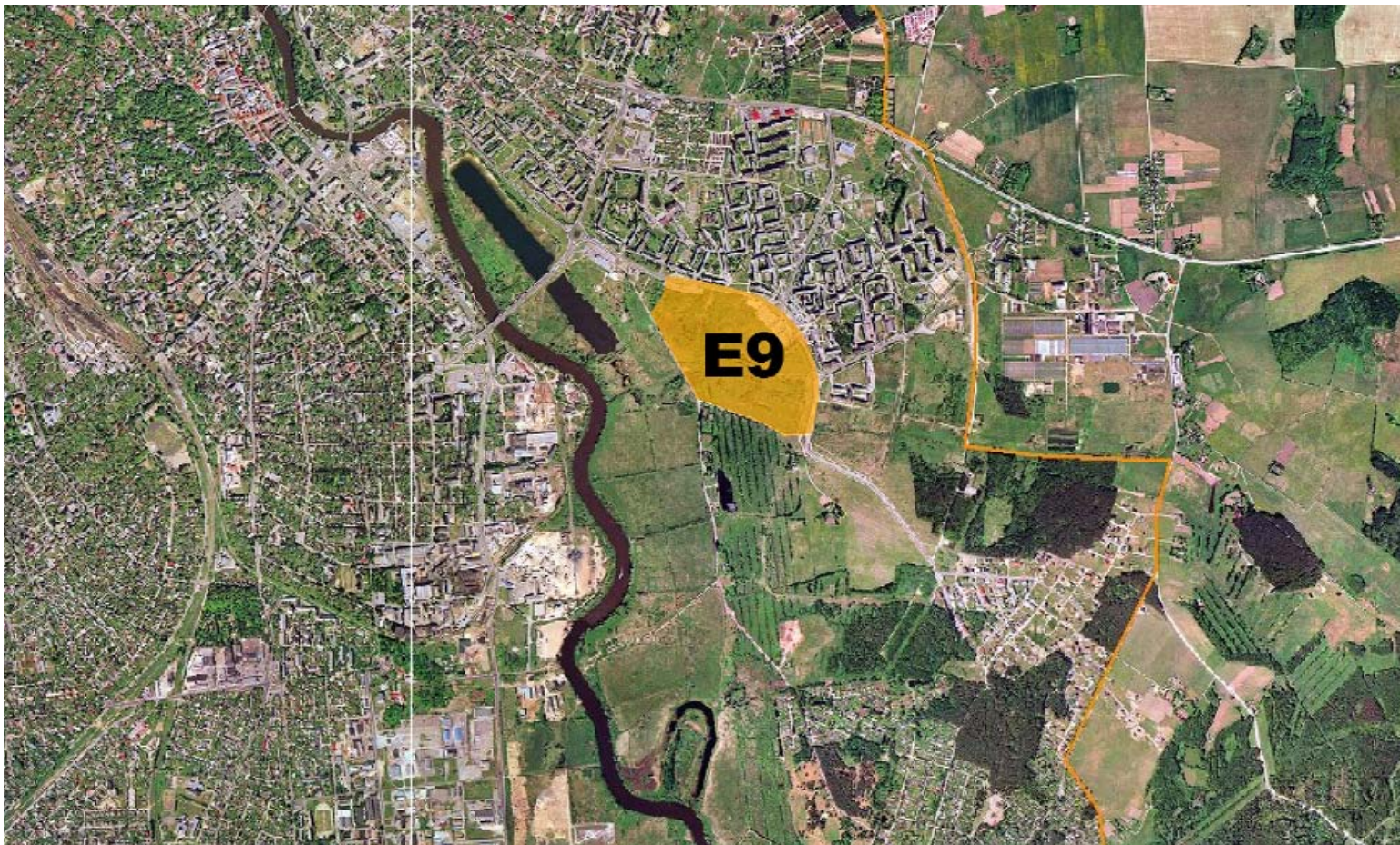
<b>City</b>	Tartu
<b>Location</b>	Annelinn
<b>Population</b>	99 000 inhab.
<b>Study site</b>	ca 76 ha
<b>Site of project</b>	24 ha

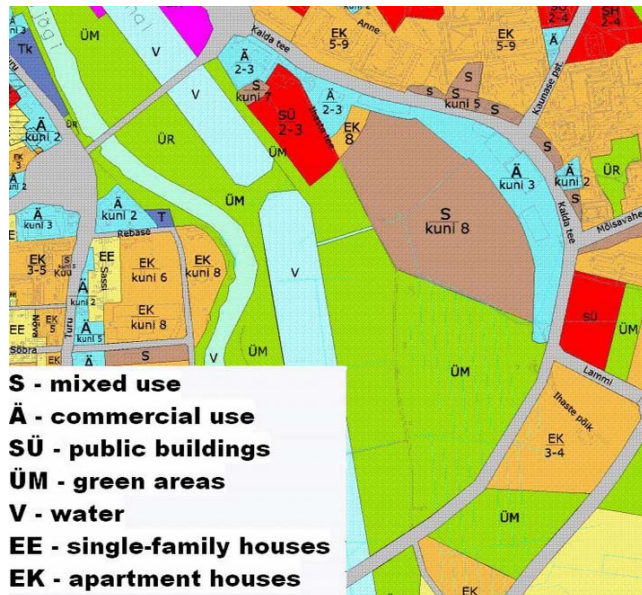
**TOPIC**

The city's intention is to expand the existing residential neighbourhood of Annelinn in the south-western and western direction, towards the river. The intent is to develop the area as a mixed use urban environment as opposed to the single-use bedroom community character of the existing neighbourhood. The city is interested in finding ways how to create a sustainable neighbourhood for the long term, having practically an empty riverside meadow as a project site. The site is large enough to incorporate different types of public spaces giving an opportunity to explore the ways of designing new public spaces. The city's aim is to find the best planning strategy for the new area with the general traffic scheme containing the network of roads for motor vehicles, bicycle paths and pedestrian walkways. As the project site is located in a sensitive natural setting, it is equally important to find ways how to retain the existing natural qualities while creating a new section of the town. The site also poses the challenge of how to deal with a potential flood risk.

**TERRITORIAL SCALE : CONURBATION**

Tartu, with an area of 38.8 square kilometres, is the second largest city of Estonia. Tartu, lying 185 kilometres south of Tallinn, the capital city of Estonia, is also the centre of Southern Estonia. The Emajõgi River, which connects the two largest lakes of Estonia, flows for the length of 10 kilometres within the city limits and acts as a significant characteristic feature of the city. Tartu is also an important cultural and educational centre with its most renowned university - University of Tartu.





**URBAN SCALE : STUDY SITE**

The study site is located in the largest and most densely populated residential neighbourhood of Tartu - Annelinn with 29 000 inhabitants on 5.36 sq km. Annelinn is a typical soviet-time housing area of pre-fabricated concrete apartment buildings. The study site has a visual contact with the city centre. In the north and east the study site is facing Kalda Street that acts as the main access road to the city centre. In the north the study site contains some new apartment buildings, a hardware store and a brand new sports facility. Along Kalda Street there are some commercial buildings and a public market, which is actively used by the local inhabitants. In the west the study site is facing the river and the rowing canal which is also used as a public beach during summertime. The city is planning to extend the rowing canal further south to reach the total length of 2 km. The study site also contains extensive green spaces in the south and in the west along the river basin.

**PROXIMITY SCALE : SITE OF PROJECT**

As the project site is located in the middle of the study site, it acts as linkage between the existing residential neighbourhood and the green areas along the river and the park in the south. This position requires a diverse streetscape enabling smooth movement within and through the site. The project site is an empty riverside meadow that lies partly in a flood area. According to the general plan the project site is defined as a mixed use area with the band of commercial use running along the northern and eastern edge. The mix of living, working and recreation reinforces the idea of sustainable neighbourhood. The focus is on finding the best planning strategy for the area with an emphasis on high-quality public spaces. Because of its close proximity to the river and canal, the site offers an opportunity to plan versatile landscaping with different water elements.





